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THE
HISTORY
O ~~Of the great Actions~~ f
WILLIAM,
Prince of ORANGE;

Deduc'd from the
FIRST FOUNDERS
OF THE
ANTI ENT HOUSE
O F
NASSAU,

Together with the most
Considerable Actions
Of this Present
PRINCE.

Printed in the Year, 1688.



TO HER
ROYAL HIGHNESS:
MARY
PRINCESS
OF
Orange.

May it please your Royal Highness,

AS there can be no fairer Prospect in the World then that of Transcending Vertue and Glorious Enterprises, I could not Study a Landskip more proper for the View of your Royal Highness then the Splendid Actions and Heroic Atcheivements

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that the Project of so great a Prince
can ever make a State, till
our Royal Highness has first long
the House of Lords has still
Refer'd to the Committee for the
Story. Such are the common Prayers
and Wishes of

MADAM

Your Royal Highnesses

Most humble and

most Devoted Observer.

THE
HISTORY
OF THE
MOST ILLUSTRIOUS
WILLIAM
Prince of *Orange*.

MOST certain it is, that the House of NASSAU is one of the Greatest, and most Ancient in all *Germany*. For besides the Grandeur of Potent Alliances, the multiplicity of propagated Branches, and that it had the honour about four hundred years ago to be grac'd with the Imperial Dignity, in the Person of *Adolphus* of *Nassau*, Emperour of *Germany*, and Successour to *Rodolphus* of *Habsburg*, it has also had this farther advantage, to have been establish'd by an Ancient and undeniable Succession of about ten entire Centuries: no less the Glory of the *Nassovian* Family, then of the *Signiory* of *Venice*, that
B vaunts

vaunts her Dominion fix'd upon the firm foundation of a thousand years continuance.

OTHO, Count of *Nassau*, who liv'd above six hundred years ago, had two Wives; the first of which brought him in Marriage the Country of *Guelders*; and the other the Province of *Zutphen*, which remain'd for above three Centuries in the Possession of the House of *Nassau*.

Afterwards, about three hundred years since, another Count OTHO of *Nassau*, espous'd the Countess of *Vianden* the Inheritrix and Mistress of several other considerable Territories in the *Low Countries*.

His Grandchild ENGILBERT the first of that Name, Count of *Nassau*, espous'd the Heiress of *Loeke* and *Breda* in the year 1404. and was Grandfather to ENGILBERT, the Second, of *Nassau*.

He was a Prince no less experienc'd in all the Arts of War then in those of Civil Government: he won the Battel of *Guinegast*; suppress'd and punish'd the Rebellion of *Bruges*, and was Governour General of the *Low Countries* for the Emperour *Maximilian* the First. He dy'd without Issue, leaving to his Brother JOHN of *Nassau* the Inheritance of all his Possessions.

This Count John had two Sons, HENRY and WILLIAM. To his Eldest Son Henry he gave in Portion all his Possessions in the *Low Countries*; and to William all his Demeans in *Germany*. This same Henry of *Nassau* it was, to whom Charles the Fifth was beholding for his Advancement to the Empire, by means of his active and powerful solicitations against Francis

Francis the First, and who, upon the Day of the Emperour's Coronation, set the Imperial Crown upon his head. Nevertheless, after the Peace was concluded between those two Potent Princes, when the Emperor sent him into *France* to do homage for the Counties of *Flanders* and *Artois*, King *Francis*, out of an incredible generosity forgetting what had pass'd, match'd him to *Claudia de Chalon*, the only Sister of *Philibert de Chalon*, Prince of *Orange*, and who had been bred up under Queen *Anne* of *Bretaigne*, her Mother-in-Law. By vertue of which Marriage, his only Son, *Renews* of *Nassau* and *Chalon*, came to be Prince of *Orange* after the decease of his Uncle by the Mother's side, who dy'd without Issue.

WILLIAM Count of *Nassau*, Brother to Count *Henry*, embrac'd the Reformed, and expell'd the Roman Catholic Religion out of his Dominions: and he it was, that was the Father of the Great *William* of *Nassau*, who attain'd to be Prince of *Orange*, and Lord of all the Possessions of the House of *Chalon*, by the last Will and Testament of *Renews de Nassau* and *Chalon*, his Cousin German, who being slain at the Siege of *St. Disier*, left no Children behind him.

True it is, that the Emperour *Charles* the Fifth, out of his acknowledgment of those great Services which the House of *Nassau* had done him, was much troubled to see the young Prince *William* of *Nassau* like to be so deeply tinctur'd in his Youth with Heretic Education, and therefore took him away, tho' not without great Reluctancy, from his Father; kept him

near his own Person, and gave him Tutors of his own choosing, to instruct and ground him under his own eye in the Principles of the Roman Catholic Religion; which he therefore profess'd in outward appearance, so long as *Charles* the Fifth liv'd, and for some time after, during the first years of King *Philip's* Reign. But those Reformed Tenents which he had suckt in with his Mother's milk, and afterwards more considerately tasted in the Court of *France*, where they were in no small reputation, while he was there a Hostage for the observation of the Peace of *Chasteau en Cambresis*, had taken so deep a Root in his mind, that they soon overrun the former forc'd Cultivations of his youth.

Count *WILLIAM* of *Nassau* by *Juliana* Countess of *Stolburg* had five Sons, and seven Daughters. The Eldest was *William* of *Nassau*, a short view of whose Life and Actions we are now about to set forth: the youngest was *John* of *Nassau*, who left behind him a numerous and ample Posteritie. His three other Sons were *Lodowic*, *Adolphus*, and *Henry* of *Nassau*, who highly signaliz'd themselves, as well in the Civil Wars of *France*, as of the *Low-Countries*; and who having never been Marry'd, all three dy'd in the Field, generously fighting for the Liberty of their Country, and as courageously seconding the Noble Designs of their Eldest Brother Prince *William*.

The seven Daughters of *William* Count of *Nassau*, were Marry'd, the one to the Count of *Bergues*, and was Mother to Count *Henry* of *Bergues*, who afterwards commanded the Armies of *Spain* against

against his Cousin Germans, *Maurice* and *Henry Fredrick*, Princes of *Orange*; and who at length, growing suspected to the *Spaniards*, quitted their Service. The other six were Marry'd to Sovereign Counts of *Germany*; and one among the rest to the Count of *Schwarzbouurg*, who had the misfortune to be present at *Antwerp*, when *John Javregny*, a *Biscayner*, shot the Prince of *Orange* her Brother into the Body with a Pistol Bullet: as also at *Delph*, where he was at last most barbarously assassinated by *Balthasar Guerrard* of *Franche Conté*. For she would never forsake her dearest Brother, for whom she had a most entire affection.

WILLIAM of *Nassau*, Prince of *Orange*, was born in the year 1533. at the Castle of *Dillemburg* in the County of *Nassau*. But the Emperour, as already has been related, having taken him away from his Father, to breed him up in the Roman Religion, deliver'd him to his own Sister *Mary* Queen of *Hungary*, and so soon as his years permitted, made him Gentleman of his Bed-Chamber, in which station he continu'd nine years, always near the Emperour's Person, who all along admir'd the greatness of his wit, accompany'd with an extraordinary modesty. And in a short time made those discoveries of a more then common *Genius*, that he took great delight himself to instruct him, and to make him privie to his Affairs of most important secrecie; confessing to his most intimate Favourites, that many times the young Prince would furnish him with notions and hints which otherwise he never should have thought of. And when he gave private Audience to foreign

Princes and Embassadors, at what time discretion prompted him to retire with the rest, the Emperour would stop him with this gentle command, *Stay Prince.*

The whole Court was surpriz'd to behold the great esteem which that Mighty and Prudent Monarch had for the Prince above all the rest that were about him, and with what a confidence he entrusted the secrets of his Empire with years that could so little aspire to experience. For hardly had he pass'd the twentieth year of his Age, before the Emperour made choice of him, before all the Grandees of his Court, to carry the Imperial Crown which he resign'd to his Brother *Ferdinand*. An employment which the Prince with some reluctance undertook, apologizing to his gracious Master, how ill it became him to carry to another, that Crown which his Uncle *Henry of Nassau* had set upon his head.

And to shew that the Emperour had the same Opinion of his Valour as of his Prudence, when *Philibert Emanuel*, Duke of *Savoy*, General of his Armies, was oblig'd upon his own particular Affairs to be absent from the *Low-Countries*, tho' the Prince of *Orange* were not then above two and twenty years of Age, and were at that time gone to visit his Town of *Breda*, the Emperor in his absence, and of his own proper motion, contrary to the Advice of all his Council, preferr'd him to supply the Place of *Generalissimo*, rejecting all his other experienc'd Captains, more especially Count *d'Egmont*, who was twelve years his Senior; and that, at a dangerous Conjunction, when he had to deal with Monsieur

Seur de Nevers, and the Admiral *de Chastillon*, who were no Captains to be contemn'd. And yet the Emperor was so far from receiving the least Prejudice that Summer by his Conduct, that he caus'd *Philipville* and *Charlemont* to be built in sight of the *French Camp*.

These Testimonies of the Emperor's Confidence and Favour, were the Causes, that tho the Emperor had particularly, upon his withdrawing into *Spain*, recommended him to the King his Son, yet the *Spaniards* who govern'd him, having been bred in *Spain*, and bearing a mortal Grudge to the Constant Prosperity of the Young Prince, by their continual Calumnies and Accusations render'd him so suspected to King *Philip*, that the most innocent of his Words and Actions were all interpreted for the worst; and the great Opposition which the Provinces made to the King's Will and Pleasure, under pretence of their Privileges, was all attributed to the under-hand Contrivances of Prince *William*.

And hence it came to pass, that when King *Philip* was at *Flushing*, ready to embark for *Spain*, with a Countenance full of Indignation, he upbraided him for having hindred the Execution of his Designs by his private Cabals. To which when the Prince with all humility answer'd, That All had been done by the meer and immediate Motion of the States themselves, the King taking him by the Wrist, and shaking his Hand, reply'd, *Not the States, but You; You, You;* repeating the Word, *You*, three times, to shew the depth of his Resentment, according to the *Spanish Custom*. Which cruel and public Re-

proach made such a deep Impression in the Mind of the Prince, that not believing himself oblig'd to any farther Ceremony of waiting upon the King to the Sea-side, he only wish'd him a happy Voyage, and so took his leave in the middle of the Town, where he knew himself secure among a People by whom he was highly belov'd.

Another thing there was which made him yet more sensible of the King's Ill-will. For whereas he thought to have had the Government of the *Low-Countries*, which his Predecessors had always enjoy'd, he beheld, on the other side, that Cardinal *Granville*, his profess'd Enemy, was the only Person entrusted with the Secrets of the Court of *Spain*, and himself shut out from all the *Spanish* Consultations of any Importance. And indeed the Proceedings of King *Philip* were no way pleasing either to the Nobility in particular, or to the People of the *Netherlands* in general.

For when *Philip* the II. bred in *Spain*, came into the *Low-Countries*, during the Life of his Father the Emperor, there was observ'd so great a difference between the Father and the Son, that the People, more especially the Nobility, despis'd the One with as great an Aversion, as they had Esteem and Veneration for the Other. For the Emperor was Affable, Courteous, and easie of Access, treated all sorts of Nations familiarly, and discours'd all the World in their own Language; which gain'd him universal Honour and Esteem: Whereas his Son *Philip* kept himself reserv'dly at a distance, rarely would suffer himself to be seen, was al-
ways

ways habited after the *Spanish* Mode, spoke but very little, and that little always in *Spanish*. Which drew upon him the general hatred of the *Grandees* and People of the *Low-Countries*, who detesting and dreading the Pride of the *Spaniards*, who at that time assum'd the Government of all the *Netherlands* into their own Hands, in a full Assembly of the *States-General* of the *Low-Countries*, held at *Gaunt*, made Suit to the King, That his Majesty would be pleas'd to withdraw his Foreign Forces out of the Provinces; that he would make use of Natives only for the Defence of his Strong-Holds, and forbear to advance Foreign Ministers to the Civil Government.

These Demands not only surpris'd, but highly incens'd the King, who believ'd the Prince of *Orange* also to be the main Stickler in these Affairs; nevertheless dissembling his Disgust, he put them in good hopes. And then it was, that having establish'd *Margaret* of *Austria*, his Natural Sister, Wife of *Octavio Farnese* Duke of *Parma*, Absolute Governess of the *Low-Countries*, he embark'd for *Spain*. However, before his Departure he left his Orders with the Governess to set up the *Spanish Inquisition* in the *Netherlands*, and to create several new Bishops. And these were the real Sources of all the terrible Disorders that ensu'd; so highly did the People detest and abominate the very Name of the *Inquisition*, and the New Bishops, which they believ'd to be Members of it.

To which we may add, That at the same time Cardinal *Granville* was privy to all the Secrets of King *Philip's* Breast, and had the whole
Power

Power of the Government, under the Dutcheſs of *Parma*, in his own Hands. Of which he made ſo bad an Uſe, as being naturally of a haughty and fierce Temper, that by his Impetuous Behaviour toward the Nobility, he drew upon himſelf their Hatred to that implacable degree, that at length the Count *d' Egmont*, the Prince of *Orange*, and Count *de Horn*, no longer able to brook the Arrogance of ſuch a domineering Miniſter, wrote to King *Philip*, That unleſs he recall'd the Cardinal out of the *Netherlands*, he would be the certain Occaſion of their Revolt, through the Exceſs of his Pride, and by his violent Counſels, ſo much deteſted by the Nobility and People.

This Bold Advice was look'd upon as a Crime in *Spain*; where from that time Reſolutions were taken for the ruining of thoſe three Lords, and all that adher'd to their Interests. However, for the Time, the Court was conſtrain'd to diſſemble their Diſguſt, and to recall *Granville* out of the *Low-Countries*. From whence, by reaſon of the Tumults, Diſorders, and Inſurrections that daily diſturb'd the Publick Peace, it was adjudg'd convenient to ſend forthwith into *Spain* the Count of *Bergues*, Governour of *Hainault* and *Cambreſis*, and *Florence de Montmorency*, Lord of *Montigny*, Governour of *Tournay*, both Knights of the Golden Fleece, to inform his Maſteſty of the Condition of Affairs, and to endeavour to perſwade him to Courſes more mild and gentle. But in regard they never return'd to give an Accompt of their Commiſſions, (for the Dutcheſs had privately advis'd the King not to let the Ambaſſadors

go, so long as the Troubles lasted) it was a Warning sufficient for the rest to look to themselves.

As for the Prince of *Orange*, who was a great Politician, so soon as he understood, that King *Philip*, by the Advice of his *Spanish* Ministers, and at the Sollicitations of Cardinal *Granville*, who was enrag'd for having been chas'd out of *Flanders*, was about to send the Duke of *Alva* into the *Low-Countries*, with an Army of *Spaniards* and *Italians*, he rightly conjectur'd, that it was to be reveng'd for the Demands that had been made him by the *States of Gaunt*, and the constrain'd Recalling of the *Cardinal*, of which the Prince was said to be the Principal Author; and believing likewise, that several other Changes in the Provinces were resolv'd upon, desir'd the Dutches that she would intercede to the King, that he might have leave to surrender his Governments of *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Utrecht*, and *Burgundy*; which the Dutches refus'd him; only advis'd him to remove from his Person Count *Lodowic* his Brother, as being suspected to give him Counsels prejudicial to the Publick Repose. But neither would he hearken to that, nor to another Proposal which was made him, to take a new Oath of Allegiance to the King; which would not only oblige him to the Extermination of *Heretics*, but might compel him to put his own Wife to Death, because she was a *Lutheran*: And therefore he alledg'd, That since he had once already given his Oath to the King, it would be needless for him to do it again, since it might be thought he had broken his first Oath, in regard he was put to swear a second time.

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On the other side, the Governess pressing in the King's Name the Establishment of the *Inquisition* and the New Bishops, about Four hundred Gentlemen, headed by *Lewis* of *Nassau*, and several others of the Nobility, presented a Petition to the Dutchess, against the *Inquisition*, the New Bishops, and the Publication of the Council of *Trent*. And these were they who were afterwards call'd by the Name of *Guenfes*, or *Beggars*; so nick-nam'd by the Count of *Barlaymont*, a great Confident of the Dutchess of *Parma's*, from the Plainness of their grave and modest Habits which they wore when they presented their Petition. Which tho it were a Nick-name given in derision, prov'd a serious Means more firmly to unite and soder the *Confederacy*, and strengthen the Prince's Party.

Who perceiving the Petition slighted, summon'd the Counts d' *Egmont*, *Horn*, and *Hockstrade*, together with Count *Lewis* his Brother, to meet him at *Tenremonde*, there to consult about their own Safety, and the Security of the Provinces. Where the greatest part were for taking Arms, to oppose the Entrance of the *Spaniards* into the *Low-Countries*, and their Designs, which were sufficiently visible to ruine Them. All which the Prince of *Orange* prov'd by intercepted Letters, written by the *Spanish* Embassador then residing at *Paris*. But Count *Egmont*, who was Governour of *Flanders* and *Artois*, and greatly belov'd among the Soldierry, would not hearken to any such Resolutions, but confident of his own Merits, advis'd the Assembly to relie upon the King's Clemency and Mercy. Which Words when he repeated at
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another Meeting at *Willebroc*, the Prince of *Orange* repli'd, *That the Mercy of the King, to which he trusted, would be his Ruine; and that he was to be the Bridge, which the Spaniards would tread upon, in their coming over to the Low-Countries; but that after they were entred, they would break the Bridge.* At which Words, as if assur'd of his Prophecy, and that he should never see *Egmont* again, he held him fast embrac'd in his Arms; and so both, with Tears in their Eyes, took their last Farewel.

Immediately after the Prince remov'd with his Wife and Children (all but his eldest Son *Philip*, whom he left a Student in *Lovaine*) to his City of *Breda*, many of the Nobility waiting upon him: Where after he had staid a while, he retir'd from thence into *Cleaveland*, and after that to *Dillembergh*, the ancient Seat of the *Nassau's*.

In the mean time the Duke of *Alva* hasten'd his March into the *Low-Countries*, with an Army of Veterane *Spaniards* and *Italians*: Where he was no sooner arriv'd, but he seis'd upon the Counts d' *Egmont* and *Horn*, and after he had put to Death no less than Eighteen Lords and Gentlemen of meaner Rank at *Bruxels*, caus'd those two Persons, not long after, to be publicly Executed in the Market-place of the same City. To the first of which the *Spaniards* had been beholding for the two famous Victories of *St. Quintin* and *Graveling*. But then it was that the People blam'd Count *Egmont's* Credulity, admir'd the more cautelous Course held by the Prince of *Orange*, and rejoyc'd in his Safety; believing that while he liv'd, the *Low-Countries* were

were not altogether without Hopes. And Cardinal *Granville* seem'd to be of their Opinion, who, being at *Rome*, and hearing of these Proceedings in *Brussels*, ask'd the Messenger, whether the Duke had taken *Silence*? For so he call'd the Prince of *Orange*. To whom when the Messenger answer'd, *No*; *Granville* reply'd, *If that one Fish has scap'd the Net, the Duke of Alva's Draught was nothing worth.*

As for the Prince of *Orange*, Count *Hockstrate*, Count *Culenbergh*, and other Lords who were fled out of the *Low-Countries*, they were upon *Alva's* Command summon'd by his Council of *Twelve*, by others call'd his Council of *Blood*, to make their Appearance, and clear themselves of the Crimes that were laid to their Charge. But the Prince of *Orange* refus'd to appear, appealing to the *Statés* of *Brabant*, his natural Judges, and the King himself; in regard that being of the Order of the *Golden-Fleece*, he could not be judg'd by any but the King and the Companions of that Order. Moreover the Prince made Suit to the Emperor *Maximilian*, and implor'd both his, and the Aid of the *German* Princes. Nor did the Emperor, or the Princes of the Empire, deny him their Patronage, but approv'd his Reasons, and testify'd their dislike of *Alva's* Proceedings; who, so soon as the Days limited for the Prince's coming in were expir'd, pronounc'd him guilty of High-Treason, and confiscated his Estate; put a *Spanish* Garrison into *Breda*, and taking his Son *Philip William*, a Child of Thirteen years of age, from the University of *Lovain*, where he was a Student, sent him into *Spain*; where,

where, under the pretence of Catholic Education, the Name of *Hostage* conceal'd the Force.

And thus it may be truly said, that King *Philip* the II. was himself the cause of the Revolt of the *Netherlands*, through his Contempt and Violation of the Priviledges of those Countries, which his Father *Charles* the V. had Govern'd all along with so much Mildness; and by his unkind and rigorous usage of a Prince, who had so well serv'd the Emperor his Father. For that had he continu'd his Favours to Prince *William*, according to the Counsel and Example of *Charles* the V. he had without all question serv'd him with the same Fidelity, and Advantage to his Affairs: but finding himself so Roughly and Unjustly handled; look'd upon as a Publick Enemy, expos'd to the Violences of his Mortal Enemies, and threatned with the loss of Life and Honour; and all these Exasperations heighten'd by the loss of an Eldest Son, ravish'd from the Sanctuary of an University, where neither his own Youthful Innocence, nor the Antient Priviledges could Protect him, he thought it high time to pass the *Rubicon*, and defend by force of Arms, his Honour and his Life; more especially, since the Oppression of his Country gave him so fair and just an Opportunity, to engage in the Common Quarrel of Religion and Liberty.

To this purpose he levy'd an Army in *Germany*, which he order'd to march before and enter *Frizeland*, under the Command of his Brothers *Lewis* and *Adolphus* of *Nassau*. Who
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possessing themselves of *Damm*, and some other Towns, made a Halt about the Bay of *Dullart*. There *John de Ligny*, Count *Aremberg*, a Captain of great Renown, oppos'd them with a considerable Force; fortunate indeed in their first Skirmishes; but being at length drawn to a Battel, were totally routed by the *Nassovians*, with the loss of the Flower of the *Spanish* Army, all their Cannon, Baggage, and several Sums of Money, provided for the Soldiers Pay: and which was more than all this, himself slain in the Field. For that seeing *Adolphus* valiantly rallying his Men that had been forc'd into some Disorder, he put Spurs to his Horse and charg'd him. And tho' he were shot by the way, yet the fiercer for his Wound, he first discharg'd his Pistol at *Adolphus*, and then with his Sword ran him through the Heart: but being Mortally wounded by *Adolphus* at the same time, fell dead to the Ground at a small distance from his Enemy.

But Count *Lewis* enjoy'd not long the Benefit of his Victory; for the Duke of *Alva* following close at his Heels, and having overtak'n him between the Bay of *Dullart* and the River *Rhine*, set upon him at such a time, when his *Germans*, being all in a Mutiny for want of their Pay, rather chose to be miserably cut to pieces, then make any defence against an Enemy so formidable. So that the Duke of *Alva* obtain'd an easie Victory over a Confus'd Throng of Cowardly Mutineers, that turn'd their Backs in heaps to the Enemy, disdaining all submission to the Commands of their General. Six thousand were either slain,
or

or else were drown'd in the adjoining River. Nor could *Adolphus* himself have escap'd, had he not fortunately met with a Bark, which convey'd him over the *Rhine*; while the *Spaniards* were not only Masters of his Camp, but recover'd all the Trophies of his late Victory.

Nevertheless, the Prince of *Orange*, nothing daunted at his Brother's ill Success, levy'd another Army of four and Twenty Thousand *Germans*, with which also join'd another Body of four thousand *French*, under the Command of *Francis Hangeft*, Lord of *Genlis*. But before the Prince would enter the *Low-Countries*, he publish'd a *Manifesto*, wherein he set forth the Reasons of his taking Arms, clear'd himself from the Crimes that were laid to his Charge, and turn'd the Causes of the War upon the *Council of Blood*, and the Duke of *Alva*.

This done, after he had cross'd the *Rhine*, he as fortunately pass'd the *Meuse*, by the same Stratagem, which *Cesar* us'd when he pass'd the *Secoris* near *Lerida*. For he ty'd his Horse together, and made them stand cross the River; to break the force of the stream; and then ordering his foot to wade over silently in the Evening, with an inobservable speed, safely arriv'd on the farther shore with his Army. Which was such unexpected News to *Alva*, that when *Barlaymont* told him the Enemy had pass'd the River, the Duke ask'd him, whether he thought them to be an Army of Birds?

By this means the Prince of *Orange* being got into *Brabant*, presently offer'd Battel to
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the *Spaniards*. But the wary Duke, being unwilling to hazard the loss of the *Low-Countries* upon the Fortune of a single Battel against an Enemy fresher, and more numerous than himself, kept close within his Advantageous Poits, notwithstanding all the endeavours and sleights the Prince could use to draw him forth. So that after nine and twenty several Attempts and Encampments, not being able to draw the Duke to a Combat, and finding those Hopes to fail which had perswaded both Him and His, that the Cities that favour'd his Quarrel, would presently revolt; which they were so far from doing, that they were not only incens'd but fortifi'd against him; a Misfortune that would of necessity reduce his Army to great straits, for want of Provisions, in a small compass of Territory not able to support so great a number of Men; besides that his Souldiers began to Mutiny for want of pay; by the advice of *Genlis*, and the rest of the French Commanders, he resolv'd to dismiss his Army; to which he pay'd some part of their Arrears in ready Money by the sale of his Plate, his Artillery and Baggage, engaging to the Chief Commanders his Principality of *Orange*, and some other of his Hereditary Territories, for security of what was due to them in particular. However before this dismissal he utterly defeated eighteen Companies of Foot, and three hundred Horse, of the Enemy, between *Quesnoy* and *Cambray*, and took almost all the Chief Commanders Prisoners, *Don Ruffillo Henrigo*, the Duke of *Alva's* Son, being slain upon the Place. Which
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in some measure retaliated the Foil which he had receiv'd in *Brabant*, where the Count o *Hochstrate* was kill'd.

This numerous Army being thus dismiss'd, the Prince retain'd no more then twelve hundred Horse, with which, being accompany'd by his two Brothers, *Lewis* and *Henry*, he joyn'd with the Prince *Palatin Wolfgang*, Duke of *Deux Ponts*, then ready to enter *France* with an Army, in favour of the *Hugonots*. By that means it was the Prince's hap to be at the taking of *La Charité*; afterwards at the Battel of *Rochelabeille*, where, together with the Count of *Rochefoucaut*, the Prince of *Orange* Commanded the main Battel of the *Hugonot* Army, and Count *Lewis* of *Nassau*, his Brother, signaliz'd himself against *Philip Strozzi*, Collonel of the *French* Infantry, taken Prisoner by the *Hugonots*. After this, it was his Chance to be at the Siege of *Poitiers*, which proving fatal to the *Hugonots*, he escap'd in disguise to *Mont-Belliard*, and thence to his Territory of *Nassau*, there to attend a better Fortune.

While the Prince remain'd among the *Hugonots* in *France*, he was advis'd by Admiral *Coligny* to give out Commissions to several Persons of Quality, Fugitives of the *Low-Countries*, to infest the *Spaniards* by Sea; assuring the Prince, that if he could but get footing in *Holland* or *Zeland*, it would not be an easie thing to drive him thence. Which Counsel was not onely advantageous to the Prince of *Orange*, but a kind of Propheisie from the Lips of the Admiral. For by this means, the

Prince in a short time made himself Master of all *Holland* and *Zeland*, no less fortunate and victorious at Sea, then he had been unfortunate by Land.

They that read the Stories of those Times, written more at large by others, would think that *Alva* himself had conspir'd to his Master's Losses. For having thus remov'd the *Germans* out of the *Netherlands*, and freed himself from the threatening War, he was now altogether for imposing new Taxes upon the *Low-Countries* being the Tenth of all Commodities to be sold, and the twentieth part of Goods immovable, to replenish the Exchequer which the Wars had exhausted. Nothing so much incens'd the Provinces against the Duke of *Alva*, as these new Impositions. In so much, that at *Brussels*, the Seat of his Cruelty, and where, by reason of his presence, he expected the readiest compliance, upon publishing his Edicts for the Collection of those Taxes, the People shut up their Shops, and the Bakers, Butchers, and Inn-keepers refus'd to put their Wares to sell. By which it plainly appear'd, how great a Provocation to Rebellion Taxes are, when People groaning under other Grievances, have that one Burden more added to the rest. For the Low-Country-mens Complaint of *Alva's* Cruelty and Pride, pass'd no farther then only Hate and Execration: in so much, that when the Prince of *Orange* enter'd *Brabant* with his Army, the Cities, tho' they mortally hated *Alva*, yet sent him not the least Assistance. For Punishment that only lights upon a few, though it inflame the Multitude
with

with hatred, yet it curbs and awes them at the same instant with fear. But Taxes are look'd upon as every Man's particular loss; and they that are therewith most grievously afflicted, lose their fears, together with their Fortunes; and not regarding future prejudice, seek a General, meerly to defend them from being dispos'd of the present Fruits of their Toyl and Industry. Thus when the Cities, as well those that continu'd faithful to the *Spaniards*, as those that stood suspected, were press'd to pay Taxes, the Hatred of the generality increasing, overcame their Fears. This the Prince of *Orange* well observ'd, and, as one that knew how to take hold of Opportunities, now rightly judg'd, his time was come to mature the delivery of his Country, and for laying the Foundations of that Government, of which he had the Model already in his Mind. To which purpose he lay still, and levy'd Souldiers at leisure, to second the successes of the *Water-Gueuses*, who by this time had receiv'd their Letters of Mart and Orders from the Prince of *Orange* to scour the Sea-Coast of *Holland* and *Friesland*.

The Commander in Chief of these *Water-Gueuses* was *William* Lord of *Lunè*, of the Family of the Counts *de la Marca*, with whom were also joyn'd *William Blosius Treslong*; *Lancelot*, natural Son to Count *Brederode*; *Bartholomew Entese*, *Sonoi*, and several others.

These having for some time very much infested the *Spaniards* at Sea, designing at length to seize upon some Port of *North-Holland*,

being at that time deny'd the benefit of the *English Harbours*, at the earnest solicitations of the Duke of *Alva*, were at length by Tempest driven into *Vorn* in *Holland*, where stands the City of the *Brill*, a Port of *Zeland*; and, finding it without a Garrison, easily surpris'd it, the Count of *Bolduc* in vain attempting to regain it. Upon the taking this Island and City, several Cities of *Holland*, as *Horn*, *Alkmaer*, *Edam*, *Goude*, *Oudewater*, *Leyden*, *Gorcum*, *Harlem*, and all the Cities of *Zeland*, except *Middleburg* declar'd for the Prince of *Orange*. *Ulushing*, a considerable City, and Port of *Zeland*, follow'd the example of the *Brill*, and animated by the exhortations of a Priest saying Mass upon *Easter Day* in the morning, turn'd out the *Spanish* Garrison with such a popular fury, that they hang'd *Alvarez Pacheco*, Kinsman to the Duke of *Alva*, at the request of *Treslong*, to revenge his Brother's death, whom *Alva* had caus'd to be beheaded at *Brussels* four years before.

In this so suddain a revolt of so many Cities (for at the same time the Cities and Towns of *Zutphen*, *Overyssel*, *Gelderland*, and *Friesland*, were either storm'd and taken by *William* Count of *Berghen*, or else submitted out of affection) nothing more amaz'd the Duke of *Alva*, then to hear that *Lewis* of *Nassau* had taken *Mons*, the chief City of *Hainault*, by the assistance of the *French*, and therefore he resolv'd to regain it whatever it cost him. Which gave the revolted Cities liberty to take breath, and leisure to fortifie themselves with Men and Ammunition.

The

The Siege of *Mons* prov'd difficult and tedious, by reason of the stout resistance there made by Count *Lewis*, assisted by Monsieur de *la Nove*, and many of the *French* Nobility.

In the mean time the Prince of *Orange*, having levy'd a powerful Army of 11000 Foot, and 6000 Horse (for the payment of which, he trusted to the promises of the *French*) pass'd the *Rhine* and the *Mose*, and being receiv'd into *Ruremond*, by that means enter'd into *Brabant*. In his March he appear'd before *Lovain*, which presented him with a sum of Money to the value of 16000 Crowns: from whence he advanc'd to *Mechlin*, which presently gave him admittance, as did several other Towns, either out of love or fear; till at length he came into *Haynault*, within sight of the Duke of *Alva's* Camp: which he found surrounded with a Circumvallation, no less strong to master and keep in the Garrison, then inaccessible and impregnable against the assaults of those that should come to relieve it. However the Prince resolv'd to try his utmost, nothing daunted at the defeat of the *French* Succours under the command of the Lord of *Genlis*, sent by the Admiral *Coligny* to reinforce his Army. For the fiery *French-man*, impatient of delay, and a Partner in the honour of delivering the besieged, with more valor then discretion, giving Battel to *Frederic de Toledo*, the Duke of *Alva's* Son, was by him totally routed, and taken Prisoner, to the great prejudice of the Prince's Affairs. Nevertheless, the Prince endeavour'd by all ways to force the Duke's Intrenchments, or to have drawn him to a Battel; in the midst of which his indefatigable pains, he receiv'd

intelligence of the Massacre of *Paris*. Then not a little astonish'd at so sudden and dreadful an accident, by which he had lost the Admiral *Chastillon*, all the chiefest of his Friends, and all his hopes of any more succour from *France*, he made one more effort to draw the Duke of *Alva* to a Conflict, before the news of the Massacre should reach his Souldiers ears. But the Duke still keeping himself close within his Trenches, and thence in safety battering the Town; and the Prince on the other side, afraid lest the *French* Commanders, who were the chief strength of his Army, should desert him upon notice of the Massacre, wrote to his Brother *Lewis*, to make an honourable composition for himself, and his: and so with slow marches retreated toward the *Rhine*; yet not without some loss, and great hazard of his own Life. For 200 selected *Spanish* Foot, and 800 Horse, breaking into his Camp in the night time, had almost made their way, killing, and firing all before them, as far as his own Tent, where he was fast in his first profound sleep; so that had it not been for a little Dog which usually lay upon his Bed, that never left barking, and scratching him by the face, till he had wak'd him; he had been in great danger of a surprize. But then, leaping out of his Bed, and perceiving the peril he was in, he made haste to his men, who were by this time coming to his rescue; and then the *Spaniards* pay'd for the rashness of their attempt, being most of them cut off in their retreat. The Prince at *Orsoy* dismiss'd his Army, and thence retir'd through *Overyssel* to *Utrecht*, and from thence into *Holland* and *Zeland*;

Zeland; which were already prepar'd to receive him. For the States of *Holland* and *Zeland* assembling at *Dort*, had in his absence already acknowledg'd the Prince of *Orange* for their Governour, and had given their Oaths to *Philip de Marnix*, Lord of *St. Aldegond*, his Procurator, in the Prince's behalf, to stand by him with their Lives and Fortunes.

Therefore so soon as he arriv'd in the Provinces of *Holland* and *Zeland*, he confirm'd for his Lieutenant in *North-Holland*, otherwise call'd *Westfriesland*, *Theodoric de Sonoy*, a Gentleman of *Friesland*; he made *Charles Boisicot* Governour of *Ulushing*, and his Brother *Lewis Boisicot* Admiral, both Gentlemen of *Brussels*, who being both condemn'd by the Duke of *Alva*, follow'd the Fortune of the Prince of *Orange*.

The Prince however acted all things in the name of the *States*, tho' he had the full Power of the Government in his own hands (so great a confidence the People had in his Conduct:) For from him they receiv'd their Garisons, Shipping, and Arms; he dispos'd of all publick Employments and Dignities, and bestow'd and order'd the Revenues taken from the Clergy. So that in less than four Months there lay in the Port of *Flushing* a Fleet of Ships ready Rigg'd and Mann'd, of a hundred and fifty Sail: and so continually did their courage and experience favour them at Sea, that for the space of ten years, during which time they did incredible mischief to the *Spaniards*, they were never but once by them worsted upon the salt water.

Among

Among other alterations made by the Prince, he order'd, that whereas anciently there were but six Cities which had right of Suffrage in the *States*, that is to say, *Dort*, *Harlem*, *Leyden*, *Delfe*, *Amsterdam*, and *Goude*, he added twelve more to the six, *Rotterdam*, *Gorcum*, *Schedam*, *Schonove*, the *Brill*, *Alkmaer*, *Horn*, *Enchyfen*, *Edam*, *Munikedam*, *Medomblic*, and *Purmerend*, to the end, that being oblig'd to him for so great an Honour, they might prove the more affectionate to him in the Assembly of Estates.

He also banish'd out of the Churches the *Roman* Ceremonies, by difference in Religion to render the People the more irreconcilable to the *Spaniards*. And thus it was that the Prince of *Orange*, following the Prophetical Counsel of Admiral *Coligny*, got that footing in the *Low-Countries*, which he maintain'd with that Prudence, Resolution, and Vertue, that all the Power of *Spain* could never afterwards remove him.

But now the Duke of *Alva* having re-taken *Mons*, sent his Son Duke *Frederic de Toledo* to recover the revolted Cities of *Guelders* and *Holland*. To that purpose he made a dreadful example of *Mechlin*, for opening her Gates to the Prince of *Orange*. After that, he defeated the *Marquess* of *Berghen*, retook the Cities of *Zutphen* and *Naerden*, but he was forc'd to make a longer stay before *Harlem*.

Wibald Ripperda, a Gentleman of *Friesland*, was Governour of this Town, and Duke *Frederic* vow'd he would have no other Keys but his Cannon to let him into the place. The

Siege was bloody, and tedious; but the besieged, at length, being reduc'd to the last extremity, by an unmerciful Famine without example, which carry'd off no less than thirteen thousand Persons; and all hopes of succour being lost, upon the defeat of the Count *de la Marca*, and the Baron of *Battenburg*, after a Siege of almost eight Months, was forc'd to surrender at discretion. The *Spaniards* hang'd and drown'd for several days together, above two thousand of the Inhabitants, among the rest, the Ministers, the chief Magistrates of the City, and the Commanders of the Garrison. *Risperda* the Governour, and *Lancelot*, natural Son to Count *Brederode*, had their heads struck off.

But these Cruelties were so far from doing the *Spaniards* any kindness, that they made the People more obstinate in their resistance in other places, so that they were repuls'd from the little City of *Alkmaer*, and the Prince of *Orange* at the same time, with so much the more ease surpriz'd *Gertrudenberg*, which was no small security to the City of *Dort*.

On the other side, *Middleburg*, the Capital City of *Zeland*, with no less obstinacy defended by *Mondragonio*, after a Siege of two years, and the expence of seven Millions in vain attempts of the *Spaniards* to relieve it, was at length surrender'd, and reunited to the rest of the Province, which, together with the utter overthrow of the *Spanish* Fleet that was sent to its relief, being all either stranded or fir'd, and the Admiral slain, in some measure made amends for the loss of *Harlem*.

A little before this, the Duke of *Alva* and his Son were both recall'd out of the *Low-Countries*, and *Lewis Requesenes*, great Commander of the Order of *St. Jago*, was sent to succeed him: the King of *Spain* being at length convinc'd, that cruelty and rigour did but render the *Netherlanders* more obstinately averse to his Government.

Requesenes had but an ill beginning, to behold that unfortunate Sea Engagement between the Prince of *Orange's* and the *Spanish Fleet*, wherein the *Spaniards* lost so many Ships and Men. But he had better success by Land to the vast prejudice of the Prince. For Count *Lewis of Nassau* his Brother, having brought a fourth Army out of *Germany* of seven thousand Foot, and four thousand Horse, was defeated near to *Nimmeghen*, by *Sancho d'Avila*, while the *Germans*, according to their usual custom, were all in mutiny, and demanding their Pay, instead of minding to defend their own Lives, and their General's honour. In this Battel, or rather slaughter of the *Nassovians*, Count *Lewis* himself was slain, together with his Brother Count *Henry*, and *Christopher Count Palatine*.

The *Spaniards*, putt up with this success, laid siege to the City of *Leyden*, and had reduc'd it to that extremity, that the People were ready to perish for hunger; yet such was the obstinacy of the Defendants, that they vow'd they would eat up their left arms after their Provisions was spent, before they would deliver the Town. The Prince therefore being inform'd of their distress, by Pidgeons let loose

loose out of the Town, and finding that a desperate Disease must have a desperate Cure, order'd about two hundred Flat-Bottom'd Boats to be provided, of twelve, fourteen, and sixteen Oars apiece, the biggest of which carry'd each of them two great Guns. These were Mann'd with Seamen sent for out of *Zeland*, and laden with Provisions of all sorts: and when all things were ready, the *Hollanders* made holes in the Damm, and slighted the Bulwark rais'd against the fury of the Salt and Fresh-water-Tides of the *Ysell* and *Mose*, by which means those two great Rivers, together with the Sea it self, being lett in upon the level Land, overflow'd the Leaguer of the *Spaniards*, and cover'd the whole Country with such a prodigious Deluge, that they who liv'd forty Miles off brought Supplies of Men and Victuals to the Besieged. So that the *Spaniards* after they had nail'd their Cannon, and sunk them in the Ditches, after four Months toyl were forc'd to raise their Siege; not without great loss of Men, being pursu'd by the *Dutch* in their Boats with long Grappling Irons, wherewith they drown'd or drew up Prisoners into their Vessels, a considerable number of the Enemy.

After this Deliverance, the Prince of *Orange* was receiv'd into *Leiden*, as a Deity who had preserv'd them from the hands of an Inhumane and Barbarous Adversary. For they lookt upon him alone as the Instrument of their Preservation: in regard, that tho' he would not proceed to the breaking of the Damm,

Damm, without the Consent of the States, yet he first propos'd it: and having receiv'd for answer, tho' they knew the damage they should receive thereby, That a Country dispos'd was better than a Country lost, then he went forward with his Design. And at the same time it was, to alleviate in some measure the sufferings of the City, that he erected the University of *Leyden*, and endow'd it with large Priviledges and Ample Annual Revenues.

On the other side *Requesenes*, to recompence this loss, about the same time made himself Master of *Zuric-see*; tho' neither he nor the *Spaniards* long enjoy'd the Fruits of his Conquest. For the *Spaniards* and *Germans*, knowing with what Toyl and Labour they had obtain'd so great an Advantage, and understanding that *Requesenes* was dead, grew Insolent upon the score of their Merits, demanded their Pay with a more than ordinary Pride; and quitting *Schelde* and *Doveland*, which they had so lately conquer'd with so much Glory, while *Zuric-see* was guarded only with a few *Walloon*s, ran up and down the Province of *Brabant* uncertain where to vent their Madnes; till at length they fell upon *Maestrick* and *Antwerp* it self; both which Towns they Sack'd and Plunder'd, to the value of four and twenty Millions; insomuch that the Plunder of those Cities was call'd the *Fury of the Spaniards*. And so insupportable was this same Licentious Extravagance of these Foreign Mutineers, that those Provinces, which till then had continu'd in their Obedience to *King Philip*, declar'd the
Spaniards

Spaniards Enemies to their King and Country, and call'd in the Prince of *Orange* to their Succour. And then it was that all the Provinces of the *Netherlands*, except *Luxemburgh* enter'd into an Association of mutual Defence, and concluded that famous Treaty of Peace at *Gaunt*, in the Year 1576. wherein they solemnly swore to assist each other in the Delivery of their Country from *Spanish* Bondage. In pursuance of which Treaty, the Castles of *Gaunt*, *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, *Utrecht* and *Groning* were demolish'd, and all *Friesland* declar'd for the States.

To remedy these Disorders, *Don John* of *Austria* was dispatch'd into the *Netherlands* to succeed *Requesenes*. Who at first carry'd himself with great Mildness and Affability. But the Prince of *Orange*, whose foresight always reach'd the bottom of the *Spanish* Designs, continually forewarn'd the *Netherlanders*, not to suffer themselves to be deluded with the fair and gilded Promises, which *Don John* made them on the King's behalf; assuring them that Princes once provok'd might dissemble for a time, but never would forget the Injuries they receiv'd, but only till they had an Opportunity to revenge them.

However they suffer'd themselves for a time to be sooth'd by the perpetual *Edict*, made the 17 of *February* in the Year 1577. between the States on the one part, and the King of *Spain* on the other; at the Mediation of *Rodolphus* the Emperour, and the Duke of *Cleaves* and *Fuliers*; whereby the Treaty of *Gaunt* was ratify'd; the holding of the States-

General

General consented to; and the departure of the *Spaniards* and *Germans* out of the *Netherlands* decreed, with this further Clause, That they should leave all the Provision, Ammunition and Artillery behind them in all the Places which they held. But the Prince of *Orange*, together with the States of *Holland* and *Zeland*, protested against their Edict, alledging that many things, particularly such Articles as concern'd Religion, were not sufficiently Reconcil'd and Explain'd.

But no sooner was *Don John* receiv'd with great Pomp into *Brussels*, and sett'd in his Government, but the States found the Truth of the Prince's Admonitions; as having discover'd by several Intercepted Letters written in Characters, and decipher'd by *Philip de Marnix*, that *Don John* had Private Orders to steer another Course, which was to ruine both them and all their Adherents. Then opening their Eyes, they resolv'd to oppose him by force of Arms.

On the one side *Don John* seiz'd upon the Castle of *Namur* and *Charlemont*, recall'd the *Spanish* and *German* Troops, and prepar'd for War. On the other side, the States demolish'd the Castle of *Antwerp*, and join'd with the Prince of *Orange*. Who, coming to *Breda* with his third Wife *Charlotta de Bourbon*, was invited by the *States-General* to revive their Hearts with his Presence. To which end the *Burghers* of *Antwerp* march'd forth of the Town a good way to meet him, and conducted him to their City, where the *States-General* deputed the *Abbots* of *Villiers* and *Maroles*,

Maroles, and the Barons of *Fresin* and *Caprias* to beseech him to come with all speed to *Brussels*; whither he went by Water in a *Barge*, the Burghers of *Antwerp* marching on the one side of the *Canall*, and the Burghers of *Brussels* on the other; and being receiv'd into the City with great Pomp and the joyful Acclamations of all the People, he was declar'd Governour of *Brabant*, and Superintendant of the Revenues of the Provinces.

And here we are to observe, that tho' the Life of this same Noble and Heroick Prince, seem'd upon many occasions to be a kind of Prosecution of Adverse Fortune, enough to have sunk a Resolution less determin'd and undaunted than His, yet he had also frequently those pleasing Satisfactions of inward Joy and Content, with which the most Insensible and Self-denying Stoics, dare not deny themselves to be sometimes irresistably affected, in the midst of the Congratulations and happy Wishes of the People, whose Hearts and Affections they entirely possess. Whereas there are some Princes who have onely the Command of their Subjects Bodies, not the least of Charming Empire over their Souls, which is the more Noble Part of Dominion.

But in regard that Vertue seldom fails of being envy'd; and that a High and Unblemish'd Reputation, is more malign'd than a tarnish'd Popularity, this Magnificent Reception of the Prince of *Orange*, together with the Authority which the States and People willingly surrender'd to his Illustrious Birth, his surpassing Prudence, his vast Expe-

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rience, and his extraordinary Merits, render'd him soon suspected to several Great Lords and Persons of Quality, of whom the chief were the Duke of *Ascot*, the Marquess of *Havrez*, his Brother; the Count of *Lalen*, and his Brother the Baron of *Montigny*, the Viscount of *Gaunt*, Count *d'Egmont*, and several others. Who, jealous of his Grandeur, sent away privately the *Sieur de Malstede*, to offer the Government of the *Netherlands* to the Arch-Duke *Matthias*, the Emperour *Rodolphus's* Brother. And such was the speed which their Envoy made, and so pressing his Importance to the Arch-Duke to make haste, that he arriv'd from *Vienna* at *Cologne*, before it was known that he had been sent for.

Those Lords had a confident Conceit that they should have all the Power of the Government under the Arch-Duke, as looking upon them to be the Authours of his Advancement; and that at the same time they should be able to undermine and ruine the Authority of the Prince of *Orange*, by setting over him a Superiour of that High Quality.

But the Prince of *Orange*, who well knew how to give way to Times and Seasons, and to convert into Antidotes the Poisons that were prepar'd for him, took no more notice of their Proceedings, then only to make a modest Complaint in the Assembly of Estates, that they had sent for the Arch-Duke without imparting to him a Resolution of that Importance; since it had been agreed that nothing should be concluded but by common Consent,

Consent, more especially in Affairs of so great Concernment; however that he would by no means oppose either the Reception or Advancement of the *Arch-Duke*. But afterwards, having regain'd to his Party the Count of *Lalin*, who had the Chief Command in the *States Army*, he prevail'd so far by his Address and Prudent Behaviour, that the *Arch-Duke* being made Governour upon certain Conditions, he himself was chosen Lieutenant General by the greatest number of Voices in the General Assembly, and had the Chief Management of Affairs under the *Arch-Duke*, by the voluntary permission of a Person that understood his Extraordinary Abilities. And thus did the Prince of *Orange*, by his admirable Prudence and good Conduct, cause that Storm to fall upon the heads of his Enemies which they had rais'd for his Destruction. For the Duke of *Arfchor*, the Head of the Conspiracy against the Prince of *Orange*, was soon after Arrested in the Capital City of his Government by the *Sieur de Riboue*, a Favourite of the Prince's: And that he might be the more sensible of his Misfortune, his best Friends, the Bishops of *Ypres* and *Bruges*, together with the *Sieurs Rassinguem* and *Senvequem*, with several others of his Creatures were arrested at the same time.

On the other side, *Don John of Austria*, being now declar'd the Publick Enemy of the Country, sent for the *Spanish* and *Italian* Souldiers, which had left the *Netherlands* in pursuance of the perpetual Edict, with a great number of

Germans, and at *Gemblours* defeated the Army of the *States* Commanded by the *Sieur de Goignie*, in the absence of the Count de *Lalin*, and the Principal Officers, then revealing at a Wedding at *Brussels*.

However this loss was soon after recompenc'd by the Surrender of the Famous City of *Amsterdam*, which was united to the Body of *Holland* eight days after the Defeat.

Nevertheless *Don John*, I pult up with his success at *Gemblours*, march'd with a numerous Force to attacque the Army of the *States* at *Rimenant* near *Mechlin*, then Commanded by the Count of *Bossut*. But he found that wary General so well provided to receive him, that he was forc'd to retreat in confusion with considerable loss. Insomuch that tho' *Bossut* were highly commended for his caution at the beginning of the Battel, he was no less tax'd for losing the opportunity of pursuing the retreating Enemy with all his Forces, which spoil'd the conclusion of his Victory.

In the mean time, the *Stat. General* Decreed a Toleration of both Religions in the Provinces; which was call'd the *Peace of Religion*. But this Peace not being approv'd by all the Confederates, produc'd a *Third Party*, which was call'd the Party of the *Male-Contents*; of which number were the Baron of *Montigny*, the Viscount of *Gaunt*, *Valentine de Pardieu*, the Baron of *Caprias*, and others. By whose means the Provinces of *Hainault* and *Arthois* return'd to their Obedience

dience to the *Spaniard*, notwithstanding all the Remonstrances of the *States-General*, as well by their Letters, as by the Mouths of their Commissioners.

Nevertheless the *States* having reinforc'd their Armies out of *Germany*, sent several Propositions to *Don John*; amongst the rest, to deliver the Government of the *Netherlands* to the Archduke *Matthias*, upon the same Conditions to which they had already sworn; as also that the Province of *Limburg*, and what-ever he had taken either by force or surrender in *Haynault* and *Brabant*, should be restor'd to the *States*. But in the midst of these Transactions, *Don John*, no less sick in Mind then in Body, as believing himself to be suspected in the *Spanish* Court, upon the death of his Secretary *Escovedo*, suppos'd to be poyson'd in *Spain*, departed this Life in the Camp at *Namur*, to whom succeeded *Alexander Farnese*, Duke of *Parma*; who by his obliging behaviour, and the large Promises which he made them, greatly encreas'd the Number of the Malecontents, and weaken'd the Confederacy of the *States*.

But the Prince of *Orange* more vigilant, much about the same time, that is to say, upon the 22. of *January*, 1579. lay'd the first Corner-stone of the Republick of the *Low-Countries*, by the strict Union which he made at *Utrecht*, between the Provinces of *Guelders*, *Zutphen*, *Holland*, *Zeland*, *Friesland* and the *Ommelands*, consisting of five and twenty Articles, of which the chiefest Heads were, That

the Provinces should joyn in mutual Assistance against the common Enemy, and neither treat of Peace or War, but by a general Consent, yet without prejudice to the Priviledges or Customs of any of the Provinces. This Association was call'd the *Treaty of Utrecht*, because made and ratify'd in that City. Where the Governours of the Provinces and the *States*, to shew that a strict Union was necessary for their preservation, assum'd for their *Devise*, the words of *Micipsa* in *Salust*, *Concordia parvæ res crescunt*.

Not long after, the Prince of *Orange*, perceiving the strength of the *States-General* daily to decay, by reason they were deserted by some of the Provinces, and several of their own Body, who had made their Peace with the King of *Spain*, through the active persuasions of the Duke of *Parma*, laid their condition before them; which he shew'd them to be such, that they could never be able to subsist against so potent an Adversary, by reason of their want of Power, so that either they must be forc'd to reconcile themselves with *Spain*, which he could never advise them to do; since there was no security in such an Accommodation, either for their Lives or their Religion; or else to make choice of some Neighbouring Prince to be their Lord, and Protector; for which purpose, he could think of none more proper, then the Duke of *Anjou* and *Alençon*, the only Brother of *Henry*, the Third, King of *France*.

This Proposal being approv'd, *Philip Mar-*
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nix, and certain other Commissioners, were sent into *France*, where in a short time they concluded a Treaty with the Duke of *Alençon*, wherein it was agreed, That the *States of Holland, Zealand, Brabant, Flanders, Utrecht and Friesland* should acknowledge him for their Sovereign. Upon condition that he should make no Alteration in Matters of Religion, and preserve the Priviledges of the Provinces. That he should assemble the *States-General* once a year, tho' if they thought it convenient to meet oftner, they might do it of themselves. That he should not dispose of any Employments or Preferments in the Government, without the Consent of the *States*; and that if he should go about to violate the Priviledges of the Provinces, or any thing contain'd in the present Treaty, he should forfeit his Sovereignty, and that they should be at Liberty, being absolv'd from their Oaths to Him, to chuse another Sovereign.

Thereupon the *Arch-Duke*, perceiving there was no more need of him in the *Netherlands*, in regard they sought a more Powerful Protection then he could afford them, took his leave, and retir'd into *Germany*, tho' not without large acknowledgments from the *States* of his Favours, and several Presents as magnificent as their Condition at that time would afford.

In the mean time the Prince of *Orange* us'd the utmost of his diligence to hasten the March of the Duke of *Alençon*; well knowing how much it concern'd him, at such a Conjunction,

to be supported by the presence of so considerable a Prince. More especially in regard that the same year, 1580. the King of *Spain* had publish'd a most bloody Proscription against him; wherein after he had upbraided him, with the Favours which the Emperour *Charles* the fifth had heap'd upon him, he reproach'd him with the most opprobrious Names of *Ingrateful Rebel*, *Disturber of the Publick Peace*, *Heretick*, and *Hypocrite*: Call'd him *Cain*, *Judas*, a *Man of a fear'd Conscience*, *Impious*, and *Sacrilegious*, *Perjur'd*, Author of all the Troubles in the *Low-Countries*, and the *Pest of Humane Kind*. After that the King declar'd him Out-law'd, and gave his Estate, his Body and Life to any Person that could make himself Master of either. Promising upon the word of a King, and a Servant of God, a Reward of five and twenty thousand Crowns to him that could bring him dead or alive into *Spain*; together with impunity for all the Crimes that ever they committed; and if they were not already Noble, to confer Nobility upon them and their Heirs.

In answer to which, the Prince made a long Apology, wherein he gave a particular Reply to every particular Paragraph of the Proscription. Which when he had finish'd, he caus'd it to be read in a full Assembly of the *States-General*. And indeed the Prince of *Orange* seem'd to be desirous that the *States* would have caus'd it to have been printed in their own Names. But some of the Provinces deem'd it not so proper, in regard it seem'd to be
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too severe and picquant, and for that they were no way privy to several Miscarriages therein imputed to the King. However they declar'd by a publick Act, that the Prince was wrongfully accus'd, and that it was only upon their most earnest Importunity, that he had accepted of the Government, and offer'd him a Troop of Horse, at the Publick Charge for the Guard of his Person; beseeching him to persevere in the maintenance of their Liberty, and promising all Obedience and Submission to his Commands and Counsels, which they acknowledg'd to have no other aim, but their safety and preservation.

But if the Prince had reason to be troubl'd at this dreadful Proscription, he had no less Reason to be afflicted for the surprize of *Breda*; which together with the Territory round about it, was no small part of his Paternal Inheritance; a particular loss to himself, and a Damage no less considerable to the Publick. Nevertheless it was no small alleviation of his Grief, to hear that the Duke of *Alençon* was upon his March with fourteen thousand Horse and Foot to the relief of *Cambray*, then besieg'd by the Duke of *Parma*, who upon the News, was forc'd to raise his Siege. Besides that he saw himself in some measure reveng'd upon the Proscription it self. For upon Intelligence of the Duke of *Anjou's* Advancement, the *States* declar'd the Sovereignty of the King of *Spain* over the *Low-Countries* to be forfeited, broke his Seals, and decree'd that he should be no longer acknowledg'd for their Prince. Nor were they
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at all daunted at the taking of *Tournay* at the same time, which the Duke of *Parma* wrested from the vigorous Defence of *Madam Maria de la Lin*, Princess of *Espinoy*, and Sister to the Baron of *Montigny*; a Lady that with a Masculine Valour, for the encouragement of others, expos'd her self during the Siege to so much danger, that she was shot in the Arm with a Musquet Bullet.

After this, the sharp Season causing a kind of Cessation of Arms, the Duke of *Alençon* made a step into *England*; from whence, after splendid Entertainments, and a considerable Sum of Money for his *Low-Country* Voyage, he set Sail in the depth of Winter, and Land-ed at *Flushing*, and thence walk'd a foot to *Middleborough*, where he was met by the Prince of *Orange* and the Prince of *Espinoy*, by whom he was conducted to *Antwerp*, where he was receiv'd with all imaginable Pomp and Magnificence; and where, being by the Prince of *Orange* himself invested with the Ducal *Bonnet* and *Mantle* of Crimson Velvet, lin'd with Ermins, he took his Oath, in presence of the *States*, and Magistrates of the City, and an infinite Multitude of people that throng'd to see a sight so extraordinary, regularly to observe the Treaty concluded with him, and the Privileges of the Country, and not to Govern after his own will and pleasure, but according to Equity and Justice: Which done, the *States* and Magistracy of *Antwerp* gave him their Oaths of Fidelity and Obedience, as their Sovereign Prince.

But all this publick splendour of Joy and
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Triumph,

Triumph, was soon overcast with Clouds of Grief and Lamentation, by reason of an unfortunate Accident that befell the Prince of Orange. For the *Proscription* having promis'd so large a Reward, Money, the Poyson of the Soul, had already infected the minds of several Hungry Villains, and set them at work to merit the Price of Princely Blood. The first of these was one *Favregny* a *Bescayner*, who, watching his Opportunity, with a Pistol laden with a single Buller, shot the Prince under the Right Ear, so that the Bullet went out at his left Cheek, and brake some of his Teeth, as it pass'd through his Mouth. At first the *French* were thought to have committed the Fact; but the *Assassine* being kill'd by the *Halbardeers* of the Prince's Guard, and certain Papers found in his Pocket, by which he plainly appear'd to be a *Spaniard*, the People that had taken Arms to revenge the Fact upon the *French*, were appeas'd, and retir'd well satisfy'd to their Houses. The Prince of Orange also, notwithstanding the extremity of his Pain, wrote with his own hand to the Magistrates of *Antwerp*, to let them know the *Assassinate* was set on by the *Spaniards*.

It is not to be express'd how extraordinary, and how universal, the Grief and Lamentation of that great City was, upon the Princes being wounded. The Magistrates commanded publick Fasts: The People would not stir from the Churches, but with continual Supplications implor'd his cure. And when the danger was over, with no less Zeal they

they employ'd their Devotions in returning thanks to God, for the Recovery of the Father of their Country.

So soon as the Prince was in a Condition to stir abroad, the Duke of *Anjou* took him along to *Gaunt* and *Bruges*, where was discover'd another Conspiracy against the Persons of both. The Chief in this Conspiracy was one *Nicholas Salcede* a *Spaniard*, who confest he had receiv'd four thousand Crowns from the Duke of *Parma*, to murder the Duke of *Anjou* and the Prince of *Orange*, by Poyson or any other way. And *Francis Baza* an *Italian*, one of his Accomplices, being apprehended, confessed the same thing ; but before he was carry'd to Execution, kill'd himself, to avoid the Tortures prepar'd for his punishment. *Salcede* was carri'd to *Paris*, and there drawn with four Horses upon the *Greve*.

But now the Duke of *Anjou* in imitation of Youthful *Roboam*, who lost himself by following the Dictates of his young Advisers, misguided by *Tervagues*, *St. Aignan*, *Rocheport*, and several other raw heads that over-rul'd him, and neglecting to consult the Prince of *Orange*, the Duke of *Montpensier*, the Count de *Laval*, and others that were able to have given him better instructions, contrary to his Oath, and in defiance of all the Laws of Justice, took a Resolution to seize upon the principal places of the *Netherlands*, as *Dunkirk*, *Dendermond*, *Bruges* and *Antwerp* it self, all in one day ; not enduring the High Authority of the Prince of *Orange*, nor to be a Sovereign only in name,

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with

with a power so strictly limited; pretending for his justification, that the People of *Antwerp* had surrounded his Palace to kill him; and that by such a revolt they had discharg'd him of his Oath. To this purpose, he seiz'd upon *Dendermond*, *Dunkirk*, and other places, but fail'd of *Bruges* and *Antwerp*, where the Citizens behav'd themselves with that resolution, that the *French* within were slain in such heaps before the Gates, that they without could not enter to their relief.

Thereupon the Duke of *Anjou* restor'd those places of which he had made himself Master, and returning into *France*, dy'd at his Castle of *Chasteau-Thierry* for very vexation and anguish of mind.

The *Flemmings* were of opinion, that the Prince of *Orange* had corresponded with the *French* for the surprize of *Antwerp*, and his Enemies made use of that false suggestion to lessen his reputation, which was somewhat impaired by his fourth Marriage with *Louise de Coligny*. The Prince therefore perceiving that the *States Party* grew weaker and weaker every day in the *Walloon* Provinces, retir'd into *Holland*, where he thought himself more secure, and less expos'd to the attempts of superstition, and the Proscription Rewards against his Person, and made choice of the City of *Delph* for the place of his Residence, where his Princess bare him his last Son, nam'd *Henry Frederic*, Grandfather to his present Highness.

Having thus to his immortal Honour, by so many Glorious Acts of Prudence and Resolution,

solution, enfranchis'd so great a part of his Country from Thralldom to the *Spanish* cruelty; it was no wonder that the People so universally lamented his being assassinated in the one and fiftieth year of his Age. For then it was, that *Balthasar Guérard*, born at *Villefans*, in the County of *Burgundy*, either spur'd on by the Proscription Encouragements, or out of a vain hope of gaining Heaven, by ridding the World of an Enemy to the King and the Catholic Religion, took his opportunity as he was rising from Dinner, at his Palace in *Delf*, to discharge a Pistol into his Body, laden with three Bullets; of which wounds he fell down dead immediately, without having time to utter any more then only these words, in the presence of his afflicted Lady, and his Sister the Countess *Schwartzbourg*, *Lord have mercy on my Soul, and this poor People.*

The Murderer had insinuated himself into the knowledge of the Prince, under the name of *Francis Guyon*, the Son of *Peter Guyon* of *Beganson*, who had suffer'd for his Religion. He was never without the *Hugonot* Psalms, and the new Testament in his hands, and would still be sure to be in view of the Prince at all the Sermons that were preach'd before him. By which means he had so wrought himself into the Prince's favour, that he entrusted him with several Dispatches to several places whither he had occasion to send. And and at the very time when he committed the Assassination, he was attending for a Pass from the Prince to some Province whither he had design'd

design'd him. He was not above two and twenty years of age, and yet his resolution in the midst of the tortures of his punishment, was no less than his daring boldness to undertake the Crime.

Thus fell the Illustrious *William of Nassau*, Prince of *Orange*; a Person, in whom concurr'd a solid Judgment, to undertake so great and difficult a Work; a Courage unparallel'd to carry it on, and a Constancy almost incredible to bring it to pass: maugre all the formidable Puissance of *Spain*, and the intestine Treacheries of those that in Crowds oppos'd his generous designs. Therefore it was that both the *States* and People, who had so often in their most dire extremities experienc'd his Prudence, his Constancy, his Magnanimity, Equity, Patience, and Moderation; Vertues, that perhaps so many together never met in any one single Mortal, bewail'd his death, as the greatest loss that ever could have befall'n them in this World; and to the end they might testify the reality of their grief, nothing was thought too Great or Royal to solemnise the Pomp of his Funeral.

He was a Person of a goodly Stature; swarthy of Complexion, his hair enclining to a Chesnut colour, he spoke but little, thought much; but what he utter'd, was all to the purpose, and pass'd for Oracular. No man in all the *Low-Countries* more hospitable, or that kept a more splendid Table, even in the time of *Charles* the First: his House being always open for the entertainment of all Foreign Princes and Embassadors. Which surpassing

surpassing generosity of his, together with a peculiar art that he had of winning upon the affections of men, gain'd him an universal Friendship and esteem. Not that he stoop'd to the low forms of Complement, and common professions of Courtship, wherewith now a-days Men honourably mock one another; but shewing himself neither sparing nor prodigal of his Courtship, so discreetly expended his words, that men of judgment well might think he reserv'd more for action. Among the common People so affable and familiar, that he seldom put on his hat in the Streets, where multitudes of all Ages and Sexes would be always crowding to see him. More particularly it is reported of him, that as he was passing along a-foot in one of the Cities of *Holland*, hearing a noise in an ordinary Tradesman's house, and understanding that the Man and his Wife were at variance, he enter'd, and having patiently heard the Cause of the dispute, exhorted them to be friends, with an affability beyond compare. Upon which, both Parties being reconcil'd, the Man of the House ask'd him if he would taste of his Beer; to which the Prince answer'd, Yes. The drink being come, the Man drank to the Prince first, in a blew Jugg, and then filling it again, after he had wip'd off the froth with the palm of his hand, presented the Jugg to the Prince, who pledg'd him heartily, and so went his way. And indeed it was his usual saying, when his Friends tax'd him of being too familiar, *That there could be nothing cheaper bought then the good word of the People, which cost him only*

only the putting off his Hat, or a little frankness of behaviour.

He had four Wives; of which the first was *Ann d'Egmont*, the Daughter of *Maximilian d'Egmont* Count of *Buren* and *Leerdam*, a wealthy Heiress, whom he espous'd by the favour of *Charles the Fifth*. By her he had *Philip William* Prince of *Orange*, and a Daughter nam'd *Marije de Nassau*, Marry'd afterwards to *Philip* Count of *Hohenlo*, who after the unexpected assassination of the Prince, when all the Confederate Provinces were under a strange consternation, generously withstood the efforts of the *Spaniards*, and reviv'd the drooping spirits of the *Hollanders*.

His second Wife was *Ann* of *Saxony*, the Daughter of *Maurice* the famous Elector of *Saxony*, who made head against *Charles the Fifth*. By her, he had the Renowned Count *Maurice*, of whom we shall have sufficient occasion to speak; and a Daughter nam'd *Emilia* of *Nassau*, Marry'd to *Emanuel*, Son of *Anthony* King of *Portugal*.

His third Wife was *Charlotta de Bourbon*, of the House of *Montpensier*; by whom he had six Daughters.

1. *Juliana de Nassau* Marry'd to *Frederic* the Fourth, Elector *Palatin*, Father of *Frederic* the first elected King of *Bohemia*.

2. *Elizabeth de Nassau*, Marry'd to *Henry de la Tour*, Duke of *Bouillon*, so much renown'd in the Wars of *Henry* the Fourth.

3. *Catherina Belgica*, Marry'd to *Philip Lewis*, Count of *Hanaw*.

4. *Charlotta Brabantina*, the Wife of *Claudio*,

duke, Duke of Tremouille and Thonars, and Count de Laval.

5. *Charlotta Flandrina de Nassau*, who, turning Roman Catholic, dy'd Abbess of *Sainte Croix* in *Poitiers*.

6. *Emilia de Nassau*, Marry'd to *Frederic Casimir*, a Branch of the House of *Deux Ponts*, call'd Duke of *Lansberg*.

His Fourth and last Wife, was *Louisa de Colligny*, the Relict of *Monsieur de Teligny*, and Daughter to the Great Admiral *Chastillon*; by whom he had that Renowned Captain *Henry Frederic* Prince of *Orange*; of whom more in due place.

PHILLIP

PHILIP WILLIAM

OF NASSAU

Prince of Orange.

THIS PRINCE was the Godson of King *Philip* the Second, and when Prince *William* his Father was compell'd to take up Arms in his own defence, he was a Student at *Lovain*; where, among other priviledges which that University enjoys, it is not lawful to apprehend, or arrest any person for any Crime what ever it be. Nevertheless, *John Vargas*, a *Spaniard*, attended by a party of Souldiers of the same Nation, took him by force out of a Sanctuary so Sacred, notwithstanding all the Protestations of the Rector of the University to the contrary.

The Prince of *Orange* his Father also made loud complaints of this breach, and violation of Priviledges, in publick Writings; wherein he set forth the cruelty of the *Spaniards*, whose Tyranny was so exorbitant, that no Laws, or Immunities, nor innocency of Age were able to rescue any person whatever from their injustice.

This Young Prince was carry'd into *Spain* at thirteen Years of Age, and immur'd in a Castle in the Country, where he was debarr'd

the benefit of all manner of Education, and where he spent the greatest part of his Life, in playing at Chests with his Keeper; till after thirty Years Imprisonment, he was allow'd a little more Liberty.

He was a Prince of Excellent Natural Parts, and being carry'd Young into *Spain*, retain'd the *Roman Catholick Religion*. Which was the Reason, that the *Spaniards* to justify their illegal Detention of his Person, alledg'd that it was done to preserve him from the Venome of Heresie.

During his Imprisonment, the Captain that guarded him, presuming to talk scurrilously of Prince *William* his Father, the Generous Son, not able to brook the Arrogance of his Jaylour, took him about the middle, threw him out at the Window, and broke his Neck. Various were the Opinions of King *Philip's* Council, what was to be done in a case so extraordinary; but at length Indulgence and Mildness prevail'd. The rather, for that *Gabriel Oforio*, a Young Gentleman, who was present at the Fact committed, gave a Relation in favour of the Prince, and told the Council that the Captain had fail'd in his respect to a Person of his Quality; and therefore that his Death was but an Attonement due to his just Re sentiment. Which was an Obligation luckily lay'd upon a Grateful Prince: for after that, he alwaies prefer'd *Oforio* near his Person, and did him several remarkable kindnesses.

At length King *Philip*, either compassionating his tedious Captivity, or weary of punishing

nishing an Innocent Son, for the pretended Transgressions of his Father; or rather hoping that his Liberty would create jealousy and discord between the Brothers of *Orange* (as the escape of *Monsieur de Guise* had done, among the Heads of the League) resolv'd at last to release him.

But then Prince *Maurice* made it appear, how much his Soul was elevated above the Temptations of Interest. For he surrender'd to his Brother the Enjoyment of all his Demesns, of which he was then in Possession; as of *Breda* and of other places; tho' for fear of rendring himself suspected to the *States*, he forbore to visit him in Person, and only tender'd him his Respects from time to time by Persons deputed.

Prince *Philip* came into *Flanders* with Arch-Duke *Albert*, who in a short while after sent him back into *Spain* to attend upon, and conduct into the *Netherlands* his Bride and Spouse that was to be, the *Infanta Isabella*, to whom King *Philip* had given in Dowry, the Sovereignty of the Seventeen Provinces. All *Europe* stood amaz'd, that the Son of a Person so odious to *Spain* should be made choice of for an Employment so highly Honourable, which could not be conferr'd upon him without an extraordinary testimony of Esteem and Confidence. After that, he liv'd at the Court of *Brussels* with the Arch-Dukes of *Flanders*. For the *States* of the United Provinces, had conceiv'd such a distrust of him by Reason of that Employment, and for that the King of *Spain*

had restor'd him to all his Demeans in the *Spanish Low-Countries* and in *Franche Conté*, that they would not permit him so much as to Visit, much less reside in their Provinces; tho' he earnestly labour'd and desir'd it.

He Marry'd the Sister of the Prince of *Condé*, *Eleonora de Bourbon*, a Lady of great Vertue, but had no Children by her. However by vertue of this Match with a First Princess of the Blood, he was restor'd to the Possession of his Principality and Castle of *Orange*.

He dy'd of the *Hæmorrhoids* at *Brussels*, in the Year 1618. leaving Count *Maurice* the succeeding Heir as well to his Title as to his Territories.

MAURICE

M A U R I C E

OF NASSAU

Prince of *Orange*.

THIS GREAT CAPTAIN became a real Exception to the Proverb, which tells us, That the Sons of Hero's are usually Persons of little worth. For tho' he were the Son of a most Excellent Father, that has left behind him an Immortal Honour, he not only equal'd him in Prudence and largeness of Soul, but surpass'd him in Military Knowledge, and Fortunate Atchievements. If the Father for twenty years together were the Chief Discourse of *Europe*; the Son for above thirty Years together, made a greater noise in the World, than all the Crown'd Heads of *Europe* together. For from the Year 1584 that he began to Act, till the Year 1625. that he dy'd, all men spoke with wonder and Astonishment of Prince *Maurice*, as one that was without controul, allow'd to be one of the greatest Captains ever known in History. While he was yet but very Young, that the World might know the eager desire which he had, to trace the Glorious Footsteps of his Father, he assum'd for his Device, the Trunk of a Tree saw'd off two foot above the Root; from whence sprung up a single Scion, Lively and

Flourishing, and as it were hastening to grow up into another Tree, with this *Motto*, *Tandem fit surculus Arbor*.

And indeed Prince *MAURICE* was furnish'd with a large stock of Courage and Constancy at the Age of Seventeen Years, at what time he was call'd to the Government of Affairs, upon the Death of his Father. For he was no way cast down, to behold the Torrent of *Alexander Farnese's* Prosperity, who carry'd all before him, by the rapid Conquests of *Bruges*, *Gaunt*, *Dendermond*, *Deventer*, *Nimenghen*, *Graves*, and *Antwerp* it self, after a Siege that was then lookt upon to be the wonder of the Age, by stopping up the Mouth of the *Scheldt*, and bridling in the Sea with a Damm, which all thought to have been impossible. Nor was he any more daunted at the strange Confusions and Disorders which then overwhelm'd the Commonwealth, through the Haughty Conduct of the Earl of *Leister*, whose insupportable Pride and inordinate Ambition, did the *Low-Countries* more prejudice, than all the Summs of Money and Forces which he brought to their Succour, did them good.

For four Years together, the Republick labour'd under dreadful Extremities, and no man could believe that so young a Prince could ever unravel such a twisted Spindle of Disorder and Confusion, or cure so many pernicious Palsies in the State, begot by the practices of *Spain*, or the Treachery of the Earl of *Leicester's* Creatures. But as all worldly Affairs never observe the same Station, but are alwaies rowling in a perpetual Vicissitude,
the

the same Good Fortune that had favour'd for so long time the Duke of *Parma's* Enterprises, of a sudden turn'd to Prince *Maurice's* side. For after the total destruction of that Invincible *Armado*, design'd to devour all *England* and the *Low-Countries* at once, follow'd the entire loss of the Duke of *Parma's* Reputation, while Prince *Maurice* forc'd him to rise from the Siege of *Berghen up zom*, to his Eternal Ignominy.

After which good Fortune, for the space of twenty Years until the Truce, the Prince was still attended with Victory, recovering within that time, no less than eight and thirty or forty Cities; and many more Fortresses, and defeating the *Spaniards* in open Field in three remarkable pitch'd Battels; not to mention his Victories at Sea, gain'd by his Vice-Admirals and Lieutenants upon the Coasts of *Flanders* and *Spain*.

But nothing won him more Reputation than the surprize of *Breda*, by means of a Boat laden with Turfs; without any Effusion of Blood; there being but one single Souldier lost in an Action of that Importance and Hazard. For the Garrison being compos'd of *Italians*, and eager for Fuel in that cold Climate, readily assisted the Boat-man to draw his Bark of Turfs, under which lay the Prince's Armed Souldiers, over the Ice within the circuit of the Castle; as formerly the *Trojans* drew in the Wooden Horse within the Walls of their City. Which was the reason that the Wits of that time, compar'd the surprize of *Breda* to the taking of *Troy*.

Nor

Nor did another Stratagem of the Prince, at the same time, a little conduce to facilitate the Boatman's Enterprize. For while the Armed Bark was sayling for *Breda*, the Prince made as if he had a Design upon *Gertrudenburg*, which caus'd *Lanzavecchea*, who was Governour of both Towns, to fly to the place which was threaten'd, by which means the Castle of *Breda* was left without a Governour, and the more easily expos'd to the surprize that ensu'd.

The surprize of *Breda* was attended by the taking of *Hulst* in *Flanders*. But much more considerable was the surrender of *Gertrudenburg* after a long and painful Siege, in view of the Spanish Army of thirty thousand men, Commanded by Count *Mansfield*, an old Experienc'd Captain, in the absence of the Duke of *Parma*. For neither could that cunning General force the Young Prince in his Entrenchments, nor draw him forth by any Artifice, tho' he presented him Battel every day. Inso-much that Prince *Maurice* having sent a Trumpetter to Count *Mansfield*, the General ask'd him, how it was possible his Master, being a Young and Fiery Prince, could contain himself within his Trenches, when so fairly provok'd? To whom the Trumpetter reply'd, That the Prince of *Nassau* was indeed a Young Prince, but as old an experienc'd Captain as his Excellency.

The Year following he took the Great and Famous City of *Groning* the Capitol of the Province. He also took and retook *Rhinebergh*, and made himself Master of *Moeurs* and *Graves*.

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But

But that which extended his Reputation farther then all this, was the long and Famous Defence of *Ostend*; where the *Spaniards*, after the loss of threescore thousand Men, during a Siege of above three years, and the exhausting their Treasures, by an Expence of above a hundred Millions, made themselves Masters at length of no more then a heap of Rubbish, that look'd more like a Church-Yard then a City.

However the Prince was so fortunate and vigilant both together; that to repay this loss with use, he made himself Master in a few days of *Sluis* in the same Country of *Flanders*, of much more Importance then *Ostend*, that had cost such a waste of Time, Money, and Men.

But at the Battel of *Newport*, where he utterly defeated the Arch-Duke *Albert*, he made it appear to all the world, that he knew to vanquish *Veteran Armies* more numerous then his own in open Field, as well as to defend, surprize, and take by force the strongest Fortresses of *Europe*. The Arch-Duke, and the Duke of *Aumale*, were both wounded in the Fight, *Francois Mendoza* Admiral of *Arragon* taken Prisoner, with a great number of Commanders, even to the Pages of the Arch-Duke, whom the Prince as Nobly and Generously sent back to their Master without Ransom. All the Enemies Canon and Baggage, with above a hundred Cornets and Ensigns, fell into the Victor's Hands, after the Slaughter of six thousand of the *Spaniards* upon the place. Nor could the defeat of four Regiments of Foot, and four Troops
of

of Horse under the Command of Count *Ernestus*, before the fight began, at all discourage him from giving the Enemies Battel; but resolv'd to dye or vanquish, he sent away all the Ships that had transported his Men into *Flanders*, telling his Souldiers withal, that being depriv'd of all their hopes of safety by flight, they must either make their way over the Bel-lies of their Enemies, or drink salt Water.

Not that this was the first time that he had appear'd in open Field: For the *Spaniards* had before this, experienc'd his Valour, first when he forc'd the Duke of *Parma* to raise his Siege from before *Knottenburgh*, with the loss of seven Troops of his best Horse. And in the next place when he defeated a Body of six thousand Foot, and six hundred Horse, commanded by the Baron of *Balançon*, where besides the General himself, were slain two thousand of the Enemy, eight and thirty Ensigns taken, and a great number of Prisoners of Quality. To which we may add that after the Truce was expir'd, and that the Marquess *Spinola* was fate down before *Bergopsum* with all the Force of the *Spanish Netherlands*, he compell'd him to raise his Siege, to the infinite joy of the United *Netherlands*.

Prince *Maurice* was very strong, and in labour indefatigable. He appear'd less then he was, by reason he was very fat and plump. His Cheeks were full and ruddy, his Beard white, which he always wore large and square. He never chang'd his Fashion of little set Ruffs; and for his Habit, it was always the same both for Stuff and Colour, which was like the Colour of

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Musk.

Musk. His Doublets were of Silk, trimm'd with a narrow Gold, Lace; but the rest of his Cloaths were of Wollen, only that his Cloaks and Coats were lin'd with Velvet. Round his Hat he frequently wore a Band of Diamonds; nor did he ever go without a Girdle, to which was fasten'd a Pendant, wherein hung his Sword, the Hilt of which was guilded.

His chiefeft Recreation was Chefs: a Game wherein he much delighted, and which he frequently us'd, especially during the Truce, when he had a Cessation from Warlike thoughts.

He laugh't at the *French* for going in their flasht Doublets and half Shirts; especially in such a cold Climate as *Holland*. Upon which, when a *French* Man told him he had two shirts on, and that there was nothing so warm as two shirts; the Prince reply'd, that three were warmer than two, and bid him go and put on another, for fear he caught an Ague.

He was wont to compare the four Principal Nations of *Europe* to four sorts of Insects. For he said the *French* were like Fleas, that were always skipping about, and could never stand still in a place. That the *Spaniards* were the Crab-lice, that never quitted their Hold. That the *Italians* were like Bedpunies, that never stay'd long in a place but they left some stench of *Sodomie*, Murder or Treachery behind them. And that the *Germans* were like Lice, that suffer'd themselves to be crackt upon a Table. He was a great lover of *Methemicians* and *Engineers*, tho' there was not any person that could instruct the

the Prince in that Art, above what he knew himself; having himself invented several useful Engines, of great use both in sieges of Towns, and for the passing of Rivers.

He would not suffer his Horsemen to wear strait Boots, which he affirm'd to be the occasion of the ill success of many great Enterprizes, there being frequent necessities for the Horse to mount in an instant; and therefore he always wore Boots himself, that a Man might almost leap into.

He could by no means approve the *Italian* Riders, that taught their Horses to rise and curvet, which he affirm'd to be pernicious, and to have bin frequently the Ruin of their Riders. And therefore order'd his own Riders to teach his Horses onely to turn to the Right and Left.

He had so much ease in his Mind, that he had no sooner laid his Head upon his Pillow, but he was fast asleep; and slept so soundly, that it was a hard matter to wake him, which was the reason that in time of War, he had always Men that fate up in the next Room, two at a time, and reliev'd every Hour, who had Orders to wake him in case of Necessity.

He dy'd in the Spring of the Year 1625. At what time the Marquis *Spinola* lay before *Breda*. And therefore some impute his Death to his vexation and trouble of Mind, that he could not relieve his own Town, that he had so happily surpriz'd above four and thirty years before. He was never marry'd, and therefore left his Title, and large Possessions, to his Younger Brother.

H E N R Y

HENRY FREDERIC

of *NASSAU*,

Prince of *Orange*.

HENRY FREDERIC, Prince of *Orange*, born the 28. of *February* 1584. was one of the most Renowned Captains of his Time, and every way Equal in Fame, and Military Atchievements to his Brother *Maurice*.

Being settl'd in his Government, he took *Oldensel* the Capital City of *Tuente*, and after that *Groll*, in despite of Count *Henry de Bergues*, General of a numerous Army of *Spaniards*, who could neither relieve the Town, nor force the Prince to raise his siege.

Nor was his Vice-Admiral *Hein* less victorious at Sea, where he took a Fleet of the *Spaniards* near the Island of *Cuba*, valu'd at above twenty Millions.

But that which made him yet more considerable, was his taking of *Bois le Duc*, after a long and difficult siege; which however shew'd that he was able to master a place that had withstood all the Efforts of his Brother, Prince *Maurice*, who had several times in vain attack'd it. And that which was more to be admir'd is this, that while he was busily employ'd in that Laborious Siege, Count *Henry of Bergues*, having pass'd the *Yssel* with a numerous Army, ravag'd all the Country of
Utrecht,

Utrecht, where he made himself Master of *Amersfort*, and struck such a terror into *Holland*, that several advis'd him to quit *Boisseduc*, and march to the rescue of the Heart of his wasted Country; yet such was his Resolution to get so considerable a Town into his Hands, that he would not stir till he had it. Nor did he then follow the Count of *Bergnes*, but turning his thoughts upon the City of *Wessel*, where lay the *Magazine* and all the Great Artillery of the *Spanish* Army, by the happy surprize of that place, constrain'd the Count to repass the *Wessel* in far greater haste, than he crost it before. And by that means, having obtain'd a double Conquest, won the Reputation not only of a Brave, but a Fortunate Captain. An Addition so desirable in a General, that *Sylla* the Dictator prefer'd the Sirname of *Fortunate*, before that of *Great*.

Not long after Count *John* of *Nassau*, his Kinsman, upon som distast revolting to the *Spaniard*, was defeated in open Field near the *Rhine*, by *Cott. Iselsteine* with half his number, and carry'd Pris'ner to *Wessel*, from whence he redeem'd himself upon the Payment of eighteen Thousand *Rixdollers*.

In revenge of which disgrace, having rigg'd out to Sea a powerful Fleet, in hopes to surprize *Willemstadt* in *Prince-Land*, he was utterly defeated by the *Hollanders*, with the loss of four thousand Men taken Pris'ners, and the rest of his Men either slain, or more miserably drown'd; Himself hardly escaping with the Prince of *Brabançon*.

And then it was that the *States General*,
to

to gratifie the Prince of *Orange*, and to testify their acknowledgement of the great services which he had done them, conferr'd the Survivancy of all his Dignities and Employments upon his Son Prince *William*; for which Concession, the publick Instruments, being ready drawn up, were presented to the young Prince in a Box of Gold.

Nor was Prince *Henry Frederic* ungrateful for their kindness; for after he had taken *Ruremond*, *Venlo*, and *Strall*, he undertook the Siege of *Maestricht*; to which purpose he so well proportion'd his Provision and Amunition, which he provided for the Siege, that he had just sufficient to serve him, till he had taken the Town. Where he surrounded his Trenches with so strong a Circumvallation, that neither the *Spanish* Army, not that of the *Germans* under Count *Pappenheim*, a famous Captain, could force him to raise his Siege; but were compell'd to retreat with dishonour, after many Attempts in vain, and several considerable losses.

Many other Atchievements of lesser Importance I might recite, as his taking of *Reinebergh*, a little Fort, for its situation so much contested for on both sides, that *Spinola* call'd it the *Harlot* of War; and his revenge upon Cardinal *Richlieu* for endeavouring to deprive him of his Principality of *Orange*, while he left the *French* deservedly in the lurch, after their Victory at *Aveine*, to be vanquish'd by want of Provisions and Hunger; and his retaking the Fort of *Skink*, the Key of *Guelderland* and *Utrecht*, after it had been surpriz'd by the

Spaniard. But that which was more considerable then all these, was his regaining, after a siege of not above four Months, the City and Castle of *Breda*, which Marquis *Spinola* had beleaguer'd at vast expences, a whole year together, before he could master it; as if the Enemy did but only take upon them still, a Laborious and Tedious Toyl, to advance his fame with so much the more speed and glory.

No less victorious at Sea was his Vice-Admiral *Erpez Trump*, who setting upon a numerous Fleet of the *Spaniards*, consisting of sixty seven Men of War, reinforc'd with several Vessels from *Dunkirk*, formidable in those times, drave them first to take shelter in the *Downs*; and after that, being reinforc'd with several Men of War, and Fire-Ships, from *Holland*, *Zeland*, and *Friesland*, attack'd them a second time with so much Resolution, that after a smart engagement, he destroy'd the greatest part, to the number of forty Men of War fir'd and sunk; wherein were lost above seven thousand Men, and two thousand Prisoners carri'd into *Holland*: among the rest of which was the Great Gallion of *Portugal*, call'd *Mater Teresa*, that carry'd eight hunder'd Men, of whom not one escap'd.

In the Year 1641. Prince *Henry Frederic* of *Orange*, marry'd his only Son Prince *William* to the Princess *Mary* of *England*, Eldest Daughter to *Charles* the first, King of Great *Brittain*, and of Madam *Henrietta* of *France*. And, not long after, as an Additon to his Glory, he won the strong Hold of *Hulst* in *Flanders*, which he wrested from the *Spaniards*, unable either
to

to relieve the Place, or force the Prince to raise his siege.

Thus *William* Prince of *Orange* laid the Foundations of the Republick of the United Provinces. His eldest Son, *Maurice*, fix'd and establish'd those Foundations by his Victories; and *Henry Frederic*, the younger Brother, by the Continuation of his Conquests, and enlarging their Territories, at length forc'd the *Spaniards* to renounee the pretended Claim to their Territories thus Enfranchiz'd by his Sword. So that the Illustrious Father, and his two Renowned Sons, may be justly and deservedly be said to be the Founders of a Potent Republic, that Sends her Embassadors upon equal Terms, to the most Puissant Kings of Christendom, even to the King of *Spain* himself, whose Subjects they were, not above a hundred Years before.

Prince *Henry Frederic*, Prince of *Orange*, as to his Person, was tall of Stature, his Presence comly, and very strong of his Limbs; to which he had joyn'd a quick and piercing Wit, and a secure Judgment.

By the Advice of Prince *Maurice*, when he drew toward his end, he marry'd *Madamoiselle Emilia de Solms*, the Daughter of *John Albert*, Count of *Solms*, who came with the Queen of *Bohemia* into *Holland*. A Lady of surpassing Beauty and Graceful Behaviour, accompany'd with no less Modesty and Prudence.

By her he had one Son and four Daughters, of which the Eldest, nam'd *Louisa*, was marry'd to *Frederic William* Elector of *Brandenbourg*, by whom he had several Children.

The second *Henrietta Emilia*, was marry'd to the Count of *Nassau*.

The third, *Henrietta Katherina*, espous'd *John George*, Prince of *Anhalt*.

The fourth was marry'd to the Duke of *Simeren*.

He dy'd the twelfth of *March*, 1647. leaving behind him his Son

W I L L I A M

of *NASSAU*,

Prince of *Orange*.

WILLIAM of *Nassau* Prince of *Orange*, was born in the year, 1626. A Prince of early Hopes and surpassing Courage, but snatcht away by sudden Death, in the four and twentieth year of his Age, after he had been nine years married to the Princess *Mary*, Daughter to *Charles* the First, King of Great Britain, by whom he had *PRINCE WILLIAM HENRY*, who was born the fourteenth of *November*, 1650. some few days after the Death of his Father, and had for his God-Fathers the Lords *States-General* of *Holland*, and *Zeland*, and of the Cities of *Delf*, *Leyden* and *Amsterdam*.

WILLIAM

WILLIAM HENRY
OF NASSAU,
Prince of Orange.

A PRINCE in all Noble and Vertuous Qualities equal to the rest of his Ancestors; Born, as they to be the Founders and Establishers, so he to be the RESTORER of the afflicted and half ruin'd *Batavian* REPUBLICK; who in his tender Infancy display'd a reserv'dness and moderation far above his Age. And his prudence increasing with his years, all the experienc'd Judges of worth and merit, that observ'd his Actions, affirm'd, that never any Prince was more admir'd, for those early appearances of a surpassing bravery, that fix'd their hopes and expectations in his Youth. He suffer'd with a forbearance beyond parallel, the Affronts and Injuries offer'd him by *Barnevelt's* Party, reviv'd in the persons of the *Dewits*; expecting with a patience (beyond that of his Great Grandfather Prince *William*,) a proper season, and favourable opportunity for his Restoration to all the high Dignities and Employments enjoy'd of right by his Family; of which he had been depriv'd, by the publick decree of a prevailing Faction, presently after the death of his Father.

Nor will it be deny'd, but that *France* was in some measure contributory to his Exaltation, tho' not intendedly, nor in favour to the Prince; only his destiny permitted that vain-glorious Monarch to over-run and half demolish a Flourishing Republick, that his Highness might thereby have an opportunity to display to the World the wonders of his prudence and magnanimity, in restoring it to its former Luster; withall, to let the Ingrateful see, that only the Progeny of the Founders could repair the ruines of what they had rear'd.

For it was a thing hardly to be imagin'd, with what a rapid inundation of War the King of *France* o're-run the United Provinces of the *Low-Countries*, forcing the greatest part of the Frontier Towns, and several of the Capital Cities. Among the rest, *Utrecht* and *Zutphen* surrender'd upon the very sight of the Enemy; for tho' provided with numerous Garrisons, yet being no other then the Train'd-Bands of the City, under Commanders of little or no experience, they were soon frightened by a veteran and daring Enemy; so that the King of *France* found himself, as it were overwhelm'd with happy success, beyond his hopes, and almost beyond his wishes.

These misfortunes, long before presag'd by the more prudent sort, having reduc'd the United Provinces into a dreadful consternation, gave the People an opportunity to complain of the unhappy conduct of the *Dewits*, who had then the sole power of the Government in their hands; and furnish'd the favourers

rers of the House of NASSAU with a real
 pretence, to discover their thoughts, as it were
 by way of Admonition to the People, that in
 all probability the Princes of *Orange* were the
 only persons capable to support their tottering
 Estate, and defend them against their Potent
 Enemies: and that as formerly they had rescu'd
 them from the Tyranny of *Spain*, so now, that
 they alone must be the Persons to protect them
 from the farther Fury and Impetuosity of
France.

At the same time, his Highnesses Grand-
 mother, a Lady of a Masculine courage, who
 suffer'd with impatience the eclipse of the
 House of *Orange*, which she had beheld in its
 brightest splendour, was not a little industri-
 ous to awaken the Dependants and Favourers
 of the *Nassovian* Grandeur, who were very
 numerous. Nor could it be thought a crime
 for her to seek the advancement of her Grand-
 child, by the preservation of his Country,
 when so many strive to raise themselves, and
 pamper their Ambition by the ruine of their Na-
 tive soyl. They, therefore, thus rous'd up, and dis-
 daining to see themselves contemn'd and slighted,
 their reputation lost, and all the Employments of
 the Commonwealth bestow'd upon the Sons of
 Burgomasters, and seconded by the fury of
 the People, who dreadfully terrify'd by so
 many misfortunes, and to see a victorious
 Army rommaging the very bowels of their
 Country, had sacrific'd the two *Dewitts* to the
 just resentment of the publick Calamities, of
 which they deem'd them the Authors, as being
 Enemies to the young Prince; restor'd the

Belgic Ancile to the Capitol, and return'd him to the possession of all the Dignities of his Ancestors. In this, those happy Husbandmen, of which *Virgil* speaks, that knew where their good and safety consisted. The fear of some few to be subjected to their own safety, was before the occasion, and the ruine of so many. From thence sprang up two fatal Factions, which to strengthen their particular interests, enfeebl'd the nerves and sinews of the general security.

To which purpose they committed the greatest Blunder in Politicks imaginable. For after the Peace of *Munster*, believing then they had nothing more to fear, nor that any thing could make head against their Usurpation, but only the power of the House of *Nassau*, so potently Ally'd with *France*, but more especially with *England*; they disbanded all their *Veteran* Forces, and experienc'd Captains, that had won so much Honour to their Country, whom they lookt upon as wholly devoted to the Prince of *Orange*, and gave the chief Employments in their Armies and Garrisons, to the Sons of Burgomasters, and Deputies of Cities; raw Souldiers, fitter to be taught, then to Command. Which was the reason, that when they were invaded by a cunning and vigorous Enemy, whole Towns, wherein there were no less then five thousand Foot, and eight hundred Horse in Garrison, surrender'd themselves Prisoners, without striking a stroke, upon the very sight of the Enemy.

Thus Faction and Interest, the bane of all Kingdoms

Kingdoms and States, having reduc'd the depopulated Republic even to despair; they were constrain'd at length, to have recourse to their last *Asylum*, the Prince of *Orange*; and to place the small remainder of their hopes upon a Person whom they had before so ungratefully rejected. Doubly punish'd for their ingratitude, by the deluge of the publick disasters, and the shame to see themselves constrain'd to implore the aid of him, whom their impolitick pride had so highly disoblig'd.

Nor did he fail their expectations, as by the event of the War appear'd; wherein, a *General* at two and twenty years of age, as his Grandfather had been before him, in the time of *Charles the First*, he gave to all the World those signal proofs of his Conduct and Courage, that soon entituled him to all the four most Noble Accomplishments, that consummate a supream Commander; Military Knowledge, undaunted Resolution, awful Authority, and prosperous Success. Insomuch, that like the youthful *Augustus*, no sooner in the Field, but ripe for Action, he not only stopt the Career of an insulting Enemy, but chang'd the Fortune of the War, and forc'd the swelling pride of elder Experience, to submit to his superior Prowess.

Therefore it was, that in beginning of the year 1672. Monsieur de *Beverning*, *John Dewit*, and *Gaspar Fagel* were deputed in the Name of the *States* to invest his Highness in the ancient Dignities formerly belonging to his Ancestors, of Captain, and Admiral General of the United Provinces. Which, when he had accepted,
he

he took his Oath in the Assembly of the *States*, according to the usual Ceremonies; to the infinite joy of the People. And then he betook himself to the Army, which at that time lay not far from *Nienkop*. Where all that his Highness could do, against the whole power of *France*, Commanded by the King himself, was to keep his Post; which he did so effectually, that the Enemy, for all their numbers, could gain no advantage on that side; but on the other hand, when they thought to have forc'd the same Post of *Nienkop*, they were constrain'd to retire with loss, and leave their Spades and Shovels behind them.

But in the Province of *Holland*, the People understanding the Frontier Towns and Garrisons dropt so fast into the hands of the Victorious Enemy, began to publish their discontents, and mistrust of the Magistracy; and first of all at *Dort*, brake forth into open mutiny; sending in the height of their fury, to the Magistracy one of their Captains, to know whither they were resolv'd to defend the City or no? To which, when they answer'd, *They were*, the People demanded to see the Magazines; but then the Keys were not to be found. This put the Multitude into a greater rage; so that now apprehensive of Treachery in the Magistracy, they cry'd out to have the Prince of *Orange* made *Starholder*, threatening withal the Massacre of the Magistrates, if they did not come to a speedy Resolution. Upon this, Commissioners were sent to his Highness, beseeching him to hasten to their City, to appease the commotions of the People. To whom,

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altho'

altho' his Highness by many reasons made it appear, how dangerous it would be for him to leave the Army, yet such were their fears, if they return'd without him, that he condescended to their importunity. Being brought into the Town Hall, which was richly hung, and seated in a Chair of State, they desir'd to know his Highnesses pleasure. To which his Highness reply'd, that it was for them to make their Proposals, who had brought him thither. Upon that, they besought him, for the satisfaction of the People, to visit the Fortifications and Magazines of their City, taking no notice of the *Statholdership*; which his Highness most readily consented to do; and to that purpose, immediately took a tour about the City. But upon his return, the People suspecting that the Magistrates had deluded both them, and the Prince, came about his Coach, and boldly demanded, yet with great respect to his own Person, whether the Magistrates had made him *Statholder* or no? To which, when his Highness modestly return'd for answer, That he was well contented with the Honour which had been already done him; they all unanimously declar'd, they would not lay down their Arms, until they saw that trust confirm'd upon him. So that at length the Magistrates, being terrify'd by the menaces of the People, were constrain'd to lead the way for others to accomplish what had only been by halves as yet perform'd. So hard a thing it is, for men to be induc'd to quit the mischievous overweenings of Rancour and Disaffection. And so sure a mark it is, of the evil Government of a State or Kingdom, when

when the People must be forc'd to teach the Magistrates what is most for the public good.

Thereupon an instrument was order'd to be drawn, for abolishing the perpetual Edict. Which the Prince refusing to take notice of, unless he might be discharg'd from the Oath which he took, when he accepted of the single charge of Captain General, that was also decreed in his behalf: and an Act immediately drawn up, and read in the publick Hall by the Secretary, wherein the Magistrates declar'd his Highness the *Prince of Orange Statholder, Captain, and Admiral General of all their Forces, as well by Sea as Land; and conferr'd upon him the same Power, Dignity, and Authority, which his Ancestours of Glorious Memory had formerly enjoy'd.*

Which done, the whole City was fill'd with an unanimous and universal joy, and the Orange Colours were immediately set up upon all the Towers and Bulwarks of the Garrison.

Only *Cornelius Dewitt*, an ancient Burgo-master of the Town, returning at the same time, indispos'd, from the Fleet, and being desir'd to sign the said Act, made answer, he would never do it; nor could all the persuasions us'd, nor the threats of the Multitude ready to break into his House, nor the tears of his Wife, that was sensible of his danger, prevail upon his obstinacy, till she threaten'd to shew her self to the People, and protesting her own and her Children's innocence, to abandon him to the fury of the Multitude.

Nor was it only *Dort*, but almost all the Cities of *Holland* and *Zeland*, where the Burghers,
*
observing

observing the daily ill success of their Magistrates, follow'd their first Example. So that upon a report of the Deputies of the Cities, the States-General of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*, with whom those of *Zeland* likewise concurr'd, not only confirm'd what had been done by those of *Dort*, but in the Grand Assembly of the States, presented his Highness with the Publick Instruments, which both discharg'd him from his first Oath of *Captain General*, and invested him in the *Statholdership* at the same time; with all the Rights, Jurisdictions and Priviledges, as his Ancestours had enjoy'd it: accordingly, the same day his Highness took his Seat in the Hall of Audience, with all the usual Ceremonies, that the Dignity of *Statholder*, and Captain and Admiral General of the United Provinces requir'd; and then return'd to the Army at *Bodegrave*.

And now, as if the Restoration of his Highness had already reviv'd the Courage of the People, We find a numerous Party of above five thousand of the *French* twice repuls'd from the Walls of *Aerdenburg*, and besides their slain, constrain'd to leave five hundred of their Men Prisoners behind them; among whom were several Commanders, and Persons of Quality; through the extraordinary valour of no more then two hundred *Burghers*, and a hundred Garrison Souldiers. Only that they were assisted by the Women and Children, while the Women fill'd the Bandeleers, and the Children brought Bullets to their Parents.

Nor did the Citizens of *Groning*, with less Valour,

Valour and good Fortune defend their Walls against the Bishop of *Munster*; who, after he had lain before it with an Army of between twenty and thirty thousand men, was forc'd to raise his Siege, with the loss of almost half his Men, and a prodigious expence of Warlike Ammunition, and instruments of destruction, bestow'd in vain upon the Place. Inſomuch, that the Governour of the City declar'd, that he had been in ſeveral Towns beleaguerr'd, but never had been witneſs of ſo much Reſolution as the Inhabitants of *Groning* had made appear in ſuch a ſmart and violent Siege. To which they were not a little encourag'd, by the care which his Highneſs took, to furniſh them with all things neceſſary for their defence.

During this extraordinary Zeal of popular kindneſs for the Prince of *Orange*, there fell out an Accident, that prov'd an occaſion to fix him more deeply into the Peoples affection, and procur'd the deſtruction of two of his greateſt Enemies.

For a certain Surgeon having charg'd *Cornelius Dewitt*, Bayliſſ of *Putten*, and *John Dewitt's* Brother, with a private propoſal made by him the ſaid *Cornelius*, to take away the Life of the Prince: upon diſcovery made by the Surgeon, the Bayliſſ was apprehended, and committed to Priſon. And tho' he ſtrove by flat denials and recriminations of the Informer, to juſtify his innocency, yet being confronted by the Surgeon, who perſiſted in the truth of his Impeachment, confirm'd by the promiſe of 300000 Franks for his

his reward, six Ducatoons paid him in hand, and several other circumstances that are usual in such kind of unnatural Treaties. The Court of *Holland* upon mature Consideration of the Report made by the Advocate-General, condemn'd *Cornelius* to the Forfeiture of all his Dignities and Employments, and perpetual Banishment out of the Territories of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*.

But the People, who saw that the *States* had gone so far, believing that a Criminal so severely punish'd by them, deserv'd much more, had his Judges been less partial, began to stomach the Sentence as too easie; and with that, away they hurry'd with their Arms in their hands to the Jayl. Where, while they were all cluster'd together in the height of their fury, it happen'd, that *Minbeer John de Witt* came in his Coach to fetch his Brother out of Prison. Upon which, one of the Burgesses let fall these words among the People, *Now the two Traytors are got together, and it is our fault if they escape us.* This had been enough to have fir'd the Multitude, had not a greater provocation follow'd. For while they were all expecting the coming down of the two Brothers, an unlucky Rumour was spread, that above a thousand Peasants and Fisher-men were upon their March to plunder the *Hague*. Upon that, another of the Burgesses, *Come, Gentlemen, cry'd he, let us pull these Traytors out by the Ears—do but follow me, and Ple lead the way.* These words compleated their Rage, yet more enflam'd by their Affection to their *Statholder*, and their Country, against the two conceiv'd grand

grand Enemies of both. So that immediately they broke open the Prison Doors, forc'd down the two Brothers into the Street, where they were soon dispatch'd by the Multitude; who after they had laid the *Pensionary* sprawling upon the ground, cry'd out, *See there the Tray-tour* that has betray'd his Country. Thus fell *Cornelius* and *John de Witt*, two bitter Enemies of the House of *Orange*. More particularly it is reported of *John de Witt*, that those Politick Productions, that is to say, the *Seclusion* of his Highness from all his Great Employments, the *Perpetual Edict*, and the *Qualifications* of the Office of *Stattholder*, were the unlucky Inventions of that *Pensioner's* Brain. Upon which it was the saying of a certain Embassadour to him in private Discourse, *Most Illustrious Sir, I have before now heard many things of your singular Prudence and Indefatigable Diligence, but far less then what I now observe: from whence I dare assuredly pronounce, that either You will be the Ruine of the Prince, or else that one day for his sake you will come to Destruction.* And it is farther said, that a certain Advocate, being desir'd by his Father, when he was yet but a Lad of eighteen years of Age, to take him into examination, gave this Testimonial of him, *That he found in him those Great Parts, and that Ripeness of Wit, rarely to be found in others, that had study'd his Perfections during the whole Course of a long Life.* And afterward the same Advocate, beholding him so suddenly advanc'd to be *Pensionary* of *Dort* and *Holland*, Propheci'd this of him, *That he would never dye a Natural Death.*

After his Death, *Minbeer Fagel* was chosen to succeed him, and the Election approv'd by his

his Highness the Prince of Orange. In whose Favour, his Highness the Electour of Brandenburg wrote a Letter to the States; wherein he gave them to understand, That having receiv'd the News of his Kinsman the Prince of Orange's being restor'd to the Dignities of his Ancestours, he made no doubt but that such wholesome Determinations, would be prosper'd in the conclusion from Heaven for the Common Good; more especially, well knowing his Highness to be a Person that inherited all the Vertues of his Glorious Predecessours. Protesting withall, that he found himself obliged by his Exaltation, to contribute his utmost toward the Recovery and Preservation of what his Ancestours had acquir'd with so much Blood and Reputation.

Much about the same time it was, that His Highness resolving to dislodge the Out-Guards of the French, with a Party of Horse and Foot, gave a strong Alarm to the Enemy, and, without moving from his Saddle all that Night, drave the French to their Trenches before Utrecht, already not a little terrify'd with the loss of their men before Cronenburgh; and brought away several French Lords that were Hunting at the same time in the Woods of Amerong; who were sent away Prisoners to Amsterdam, with so much Civility, that there was not the least offer made to plunder them of their Rings and Jewels that glitter'd upon their Fingers.

Much about the same time also, several Alterations were made of the Magistrates of many Cities, to the great satisfaction of the Inhabitants, who saw themselves now in a fair way to be restor'd to their former Tranquility: and several Commanders receiv'd the due Punish-

ment of their Cowardise and Treachery ; his Highness no longer enduring that Corruption of Military Discipline, which had prov'd so Fatal to his Country. These were but small beginnings, but such as every day more then other encreas'd the Affection of the People toward his Highness to that degree, that a Rumour being spread about the *Hague*, that certain Persons in Disguise had made an Attempt upon his Person, as he was going about eight of the Clock at Night, toward the latter end of *October*, to visit the Princess Dowager, all the People young and old, great and small, betook themselves to their Arms, and follow'd the young *Rhine-Grave*, who presently mounted upon the Alarm, to his rescue. But, understanding the falshood of the Report, and that His Highness was safely arriv'd at *Hountslaerdyke*, they return'd home with no less Joy, then they had hurry'd forth with Zeal and Fury. However it occasion'd a Resolution, that his Highness from thence-forward should always have a Guard to attend his Person.

But nothing more perplex'd the Prince, then that the year should be so far spent without any considerable Action on his part ; and therefore he resolves to attacque *Woerden*. To which purpose he sends Collonel *Snylesteyne*, and the Count de Horn before ; the first to take up his Quarters between *Utrecht* and *Woerden*, and the latter to entrench himself on *Polanen* and the *Saw-mill* side. His Highness himself sate down with four Regiments on that side next to *Bodegrave*. Presently *Luxemburg* hasten'd to the relief of the Besieged, and with between eight and nine thousand Men falls upon *Snylesteyne's* Quarter ;

Quarter; but was beaten off with loss, and forc'd to retreat. Thereupon the Town was furiously batter'd, and brought to parley; but then the Duke of *Luxemburg*, being reinfort'd with fresh supplies, and conducted by the treacherous *Peasants*, through the Water, and a long Lane that was thought impassable, fell a second time, and that unexpectedly, upon the same Quarter of *Snylesteyn*, from whence he had been beaten the Night before; and, after a Bloody and obstinate Fight, wherein *Snylesteyn* refusing Quarter was Slain, at length made a shift to put three thousand Men into the Garrison. Nevertheless he was again repuls'd, upon the coming in of the *Count de Horn* to the Relief of the rest, and forc'd to leave the Prisoners, which he had taken, behind him.

Of the *French* were Slain two thousand common Souldiers, and fifty four Officers dy'd of their Wounds in five days after the Fight, besides several others that were forc'd to have their Legs and Arms cut off. Which made the *French* at *Utrecht* report, that the *Hollanders* shot like Devils; insomuch that such was afterwards their dread of their *Woerden* Entertainment, that the Officers of *Utrecht*, would usually draw Lots when they were to be sent forth upon any Parties where the Prince was engag'd.

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tion, with the ruine of almost five Regiments of the *French Infantry*, of which the Greatest part of the *Officers* were either kill'd or desperately wounded, and the double repulse of an Old Experienc'd General assisted by treachery and surprize.

After the Attacque of *Woerden*, his Highness held a Council of War, of the Principal Officers of the Army, and then ordering the Cavalry, which had layn all the Summer at *Helden*, to hinder the landing of the *English*, to be transported through *Rotterdam* into *Brabant*, march'd himself for *Rosendael*, the Place appointed for the general *Rendezvous*. By the way a certain *Collonel*, out of curiosity, would needs be so inquisitive as to ask his Highness, what was the great Design he had at that time against the *French*? To whom his Highness putting another Question, by way of reply, demanded of the *Collonel*, Whether he would discover his Designs to any Person in the World, that should be so impertinently inquisitive as to ask him? Upon which, the *Collonel* answering in the Negative, Then, said the Prince, *my Tongue is also endu'd from Heav'n with the same Grace*. An Answer becoming the Wisdom of a Prince, and the Reserv'dness of a Great Commander: Like that of the Famous Consul *Cacilius Metellus*, to a young Friend upon the same Occasion. Having muster'd his Army at *Rosendael*, to the number of four and twenty thousand Horse and Foot, he march'd directly toward the Country of *Liege*. Upon his approach, the Count *de Duras*, who lay at *Mafeyte*, retreated with his Army to *Wasseberg*, and so higher up the River *Roer*. And indeed it appear'd that the chief Design of his Highness's March was to
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remove the *French*, under the command of *Duras*, from their Quarters about the *Meuse*, and to have given him Battel, could he have met with a favourable Opportunity. To which purpose having pass'd his Army over a Bridge of Boats near *Navagne*, and join'd the *Spanish* Auxiliaries, he march'd directly for *Tongerren*, which he invested on every side with his own and the *Spanish* Cavalry. But understanding that the Count of *Duras* was decamp'd from the Place where he lay, the Prince march'd back toward *Maestricht*, and repassing the *Meuse* between *Sittart* and *Maseike*, and lodging his Army near *Ainsbergh*, waited there two days for an Opportunity to engage the Count; but the swelling of the River not favouring his Design, he retreated back to *Maestricht*, from whence he sent out a Party of Horse and Foot to take in the strong Castle of *Valcheren*, which after a short Dispute surrender'd at discretion; by which means the Victors were not only Masters of the Castle, but of a great quantity of Wheat, Hay, and other Provision of Victuals. Which done, his Highness march'd to *Lennich*, in hopes to have engag'd the Enemy there. But the Count retreated with so much speed out of his reach, that 'twas impossible for the Prince to overtake him. Such was the Courage of his Highness at that time, notwithstanding all the Difficulties of a sharp and rigorous Season, to have fought a Victorious Enemy in the heart of his Conquests. His Highness therefore finding the Count so unwilling to hazard a Battel, came to the Castle of *Dessener*, and from thence sent the Count of *Marcin* to invest *Charleroy* with the Vahtguard, while he follow'd with

the rest of the Army. But such was the extreme cold, that it was impossible to sink any Trenches, or make any Circumvallation, so that the Prince, after he had made himself Master of *Binch*, together with three Captains and three hundred Common Soldiers, and ransack'd and demolish'd the Town, retir'd back through *Brabant*, and dispers'd his Army into their Winter Quarters. *Montal*, who clapt himself sometimes into *Tongeren*, and sometimes into *Charle-roy*, afraid of both places, yet not knowing where the Prince would fix, then found himself deceiv'd, to believe the Prince had any design to undertake long sieges in the most sharp and rigorous Season of the Year. Yet this was remarkable, that so young a General should be able with an Army compos'd of so many Nations, to march in the depth of bitter Winter into an Enemies Country, remove an old General from his Post, Challenge him to Battel, and to that purpose hunt him from place to place, terrifie two strong Garrisons, and return with the Pris'ners and Booty of two fortifi'd places, and all this within the space of nine days, with little or no loss of his own Men. Besides the Terror which he struck into the Bishop of *Cologne*, who thought himself secure neither at *Bon*, nor any other part of his Territories, so long as his Highness quarter'd so near him.

During this Expedition of the Prince, the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, having drawn together an Army of fourteen thousand Horse and Foot, with a resolution to invade the Province of *Holland*, in hopes to enrich himself and his Army, with the plunder of *Leyden* and the

Hague,

Hague, began his march from *Woerden*, over the Ice, with the flower of the *French* Army, toward the latter end of *December*; but being come to *Slimwetering*, the Enemy found the Waters there so high, that only three thousand five hundred of the lightest of the Infantry were able to get over. The rest were constrain'd to return to *Woerden*. These 3500 first attack'd *Nieucrop*, but were beaten off by the *Peasants*, so that finding themselves repuls'd on that side, they directed their march towards *Swammerdam*, where the Souldiers were the first that ran for't, leaving the Inhabitants to the mercy of the Enemy. However the Count *de Coningsmark*, who commanded at *Bodegrave*, being advertis'd of the march of the *French*, hasten'd toward *Leyden* side, and posted a Regiment at *Gours Sluys*, to prevent their passage that way.

This desperate march of the *French*, put the People at first into a great Consternation, more especially at the *Hague*. But nothing more daunted them, then to hear that, while the *States* had taken all the care imaginable, to prevent the return of the the Enemy, Collonel *Paine Vin* had abandon'd his Post at *Niewerbroug*, and was retir'd to *Gouda*, by which means the Enemy had a free passage open for their Retreat, who must else have perish'd all in the Water, or have surrender'd themselves Prisoners, by reason of the sudden thaw that ensu'd. But all their Fears soon vanish'd upon the return of the Prince of *Orange* out of *Brabant*; who, having at *Breda* receiv'd Intelligence of this Attempt of the *French*, hasten'd with all imaginable speed to *Alfen*; and in a short time, by the strange effects of his Presence, restor'd

all things to their former condition. The Duke of *Luxemburgh* was present all along, and had like to have been lost by a fall from his Horse into the thaw'd water; in so much that his Men had much a-do to recover him; however though he did not lose himself, he lost above six hunder'd of his chosen Souldiers; and so this slippery Expedition ended.

True it is, that the *French* committed most exorbitant Cruelties at *Swammerdam*, and other places that fell into their Hands, by the Ravishing of Women, stripping and wounding the Aged and Decrepit, and throwing Infants that smil'd in their Faces, into the Fire, but those Losses were in some measure repay'd by the regaining of *Coevorden*. This City, which is one of the most Noble and Goodly pieces of Fortification in all the Low-Countries, and held to be such over all *Europe*, the Key of the Provinces of *Friesland* and *Groning*, situated upon the Frontiers of the *Drent*, and confining upon the County of *Bentem* and *Tuent*, surrounded with a *Mersh*, and Fortify'd with large and deep double Moats, Ramparts extreamly high and strong, defended by seven Bastions, bearing the Names of the seven Provinces, and a Regular Castle, held for impregnable by the Antient Writers, fell into the hands of the Bishop of *Munster*, to make up the Misfortunes of this Fatal Year 1672. not without suspicion of Treachery, but after the turn of the Tide of *French* Victory, upon the Restauration of his *Highness* to his antient Dignities, was recover'd with no less Gallantry then it had been lost before by dishonourable Cowardise. For this very place which *Verdugo* had besieg'd in vain, for one and thirty weeks together,

together, and which the Bishop of *Munster*, after he became Master of it, had furnish'd with a considerable Magazine, intending to make it the Seat of his War in those Parts, was by a Party of only 960, retaken within the space of one Hour, with the loss of hardly threescore Men, of the Enemy a hunder'd and fifty besides Officers were slain in the Assault, and four hundred and thirty taken Prisoners, among whom were six Captains, eleven Lieutenants, and fourteen Ensigns. The rest (for the whole Garrison amounted to 900) made haste to escape so soon as they saw the place was lost. But that which was more considerable, was the Possession of such an important Fort, furnish'd to the hands of the Victor, with such an infinite quantity of warlike Ammunition, provided without question for a longer defence. More then that, as the Recovery of this renowned Fortrefs, highly encourag'd the *Dutch*, so it no less astonish'd the Enemy; whose consternation was such, that upon news of their loss, they abandon'd several of their Garrisons, and shifted every one for themselves. All which redounded to the Glory of his Highness; for that the People, finding such prosperous Alterations upon his coming to the management of Affairs, were easily induc'd, as they had reason, to believe, that all their unexpected successes were but the effects of his Courageous Influences.

Therefore it was that the same Authority which *Aristides* had over the *Athenians*, the Prince had over the People of the *Low-Countries*. Which made them submit to what ever he approv'd. So that he conquer'd their Domestick Differences, with the same good Fortune that he vanquish'd their
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their Foreign Enemies ; for always Reverence and Awe accompany Affection, more especially, when gain'd by sweetness and moderation. From whence it came to pass, that when the dissentions between the Magistrates of *Friesland* were grown to that height, that the new and the old Magistrates, representing each the Sovereignty of the Province, held their Assemblies apart, and acted quite contrary to one another (a strange irregular motion, and pernicious to the publick good, which neither the Governour of *Friesland*, nor his Mother could reduce into Order) yet so soon as the Commissioners arriv'd among them, which were sent by his Highness, those Breaches were in a short time repair'd, and the Province was restor'd to its former Unanimity

But going in Person, to pacifie the Dissentions in *Zeland*, He no sooner appear'd in the General Assembly of the *States* at *Middlebourgh*, but their discords vanish'd, and all things were settled in order to the defence of the Country, to the full content of the Province in General, the Magistrates in particular, and his Highness's eternal Praise. From thence he took an occasion to visit the Frontier-Fortifications of *Flushing*, *Sluyse*, *Ardenburgh*, (where the Keys of the Town were deliver'd him in a silver Basen, by the young Virgins of the City deckt with Garlands of several flowers) *Ysendiik*, *Berghen-Op-Zoon*, *Breda*, *Bois le duc*, and after a strict survey with no less care then toyl return'd to the *Hague*.

The Spring was now far spent, and now, if ever, the *Hollanders* had their hands full : Being assail'd on the one side by the King of *France* in Person with a Puissant Army ; while *Conde* and *Luxemburgh* lay at *Utrecht* with powerful Forces,
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watching all opportunities to break into the Heart of their Territories, and by Sea, no less vigorously attack'd by the King of *Great Britain* with his own and the greatest part of the Naval Force of the *French* Dominions. For which reason, the Prince of *Orange* had no leisure to stir abroad ; as being constrain'd to keep his Post at home, as well to watch the designs of *Conde* and *Luxemburgh*, as to prevent the threaten'd Descents of the *English*.

In the beginning of *May* therefore, the King of *France* set forward from *Paris* with a numerous Army, with which several other great Bodies were to joyn, that lay ready in several parts of his new Conquests ; and after a slow march, upon the tenth of *June*, sat down with his whole Army of 42000 Horse and Foot before *Maestricht* ; having before given Order to the Count *de l'Orge*, to invest it with three thousand of his Cavalrie. The Garrison consisted of about four thousand Foot, and between eight and nine hundred Horse, under the Command of Monsieur *de Fariaux* Governour of the Town, a Resolute and Experienc'd Commander, as it may easily appear, by the stout resistance which he made against the whole Power of *France*, and the deluge of blood which the Purchase cost the King, no less then the slaughter of above nine thousand of his stoutest Common-Souldiers, and an infinite number of his choicest Officers. Nor had he had it neither at so cheap a rate, as many believe, could the besieged but have been reliev'd in time, with no more then the recruit of a thousand Men, and a supply of Match, which they began extreamly to want.

It would be too tedious to give an exact account

count of the bloody disputes by day, and conflicts by night, enlighten'd with the continual Flames of the Batteries on both sides, which is the work of a Journal rather than a History; and therefore let it suffice to say, in short, that after the Garrison by a valiant defence of near three weeks, was reduc'd to half their number, by innumerable Batteries, Assaults, and Stormings of fresh Assailants day and night; and the remainder quite tyr'd out with continual labour and watching, the Governour was at length forc'd, by the Petitions of the Magistrates and Ecclesiasticks of the Place, to Capitulate, and surrender upon the most honourable terms of War. Of all which, when the Governour made his report to his Highness, he was so well satisfy'd in the Gallantry of his Performance, that he presently preferr'd him to be Major General of his Army.

For indeed, the contest had been so sharp for the time, and so mortal to the *French*, that the King, so soon as he had taken the Town, thought he had done enough for that Summer; and therefore, after he had demolish'd the Fortifications of *Tongres*, he broke up his Army, and sent one part of it to the recruit of *Turenne*, another to waste and harrass the Country of *Treves*, in regard the Elector had taken part with the Emperour, and three Brigades more to reinforce his Army to *Holland*.

Thus the *French* Army being dispers'd, and the *English* Fleet after the last Engagement being retir'd from the Coast of *Holland*, the Prince of *Orange* now at more liberty, and not enduring to lye still, call'd off his Forces that lay for the defence of *Zeland*, to joyn with the
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rest of the Army ; and decamping from *Raemsdonk*, of a sudden sate down before *Naerden*, with five and twenty thousand Men. His Highness took up his Quarters at *Buſsum*, Count *Waldech* in the Churchyard of *Loosdrecht*, *Ankeveen*, and *Helversum*, while Major General *de Fariaux* Commanded the Cavalry. In the mean time the Duke of *Luxemburg* having drawn together a Body of ten thousand men, besides four Regiments of *Munster* Horse, advanc'd within view of the Princes Circumvallations and Entrenchments, which were by that time finish'd ; but not daring to attempt the succour of the Town, the Prince proceeded, storm'd the Counter-scarp and Ravelin before the *Huyſer Port*, and after three hours resistance, made himself Master of both ; forc'd the besieg'd to retire in great confusion into the City, and the next day, upon the loss of their defences, to beat a Parley ; which procur'd the surrender of the Town, upon Articles to march out, with Colours flying, Drums beating, and two pieces of Canon.

When the Garrison march'd out, the Governour saluted his Highness with a profound submission ; and it is said, that he assur'd the Prince that he had Reasons sufficient to surrender the Town in so few days, which he would declare in due time and place to his Master the King. But it seems his reasons were not sufficient ; for he was condemn'd to perpetual Imprisonment, and had his Sword broken over his head at *Utrecht*. For indeed it was admir'd by all men, that the *French* should so easily yield up so strong a Hold, and so well provided for its defence. For it had within it a Garrison of

2930 Men, and wanted neither Provision nor Ammunition besides that the *French*, while they were Masters of it, had greatly added to the strength of the Fortifications.

But whatsoever were the cause, whether the divisions between the *Switzers* and *French*, as some conclude, or any other, his Highness won it in four days, and lost no more then a hundred men slain, and two hundred wounded, in a Conquest so important, whereas the Besieg'd lost many more; which is usually contrary to the custom of Sieges. Rather therefore, the true cause of so quick a dispatch of a Leaguer, lookt upon to be so difficult, may be attributed to the courage of his Highness, who spar'd not to expose his Person in all places of greatest danger, as well in the Trenches, as upon the Batteries, to animate the Souldiers by his Example. Nor was his Highness less careful to preserve, then to acquire; and therefore, after he had given all necessary Orders for the repair of the Fortifications, and settlement of the Garrison, he made the Count *de Comningsmark*, a Commander of known Resolution and Experience, Governour of the Place. Which done, he return'd to the *Hague*, to prepare for greater Designs.

For now the States of the United Provinces, having enter'd into a more strict Alliance with *Spain*, for mutual Defence against the *French*, as the Common Enemy of both, by which they were oblig'd to assist each other with their joynt Forces; and the Emperour also, having at the same time leagu'd himself in the same Confederacy, (which gave it the Name of the Tripple Alliance) in pursuance of which, his Army that was to be no less then twenty thousand Foot and ten thousand Horse; was already upon their March to the common Assistance, his Highness therefore, that he might do something Remarkable before the Season of the Year slip't away, sends his Army before to *Rosendaël* in *Brabant*, and making haste himself after it, joyns with the Count *de Monterey*, who readily yielded the Precedence and Command of the whole to his Highness. Thereupon his Highness, finding that *Condé* had chang'd his Post upon Intelligence of this Conjunction, and lay so strongly Entrench'd, that it was impossible to assay him in his Fastness, he March'd directly forward, and between *Andernach* and *Bon*, joyn'd with the Imperial Army under the Command of *Montecuculi*. In his March he summon'd *Rhinback*; which, through the Obstinacy of a Seditious Burgher,

Burgher, who encourag'd the rest to Resistance, refusing to submit, he commanded the *Sieur Valkenburgh*, with two Regiments of Dragoons and two of Foot to storm the Town. Which was done with that fury, that the Souldiers upon their first Entrance put all to the Sword that came in their way, and among the rest hang'd up the *Burgher* that had occasion'd the unseasonable Resistance.

Thus the Confederates being joyn'd, the Siege of *Bon* was resolv'd upon, and the Marquess of *Arsentar*, to that purpose, sent to take up his Quarters at *Kessenig*. The next day *Montecuculi* lodg'd the Imperialists at *Goedesbergh*, and his Highness lay with his Forces at *Rijndorf*, while General *Spork* with the Imperial Cavalry, Quarter'd himself on the other side of the Town near the *Wester-waldt*.

Bon is a considerable Town, by the Romans call'd *Julia Bonna*, seated upon the *Rhine*, about four Leagues from *Cologne*, and being then in the hands of the Electour of *Cologne* and the *French*, was by them furnish'd with a Garrison of two thousand Men under the Command of Gen. *Lants-berghen*, and stor'd with Provisions and Ammunition of all sorts, besides fourscore great Guns mounted upon their Walls and Bulwarks. However the Confederates not thinking *Naerden* sufficient Payment for the loss of *Maestricht*, resolv'd to have this Town too into the Bargain. Nor durst *Condé* attempt to give them any Interruption himself, only he sent Marshal *D'Humieres* with a Body of 7000 Horse, to face the Leaguer, and at the beginning of the Siege, to try what reinforcements of Men he could put into the Garrison. To that purpose he advanc'd as far as *Birchem*, from whence he sent a Patty of a hundred Horse, who feigning to be the Duke of *Lorain's* Men, were let pass by the Sentinels, through the Quarter of the *Imperialists*, and got into the Town. But another Hundred hoping to have the same success through the Quarter where his Highness lay, found the Sentinels more mistrustful, so that they were almost all cut to pieces or taken Prisoners; which sad tidings reaching the Ears of five hundred more, that lay hid behind a Neighbouring Wood upon the same design, they retreated in a good Hour, to their Body. For by this time General *Spork* had drawn forth an equal Body of Horse, to encounter the *French*. Which the Marshal understanding, made a swift retreat out of his Reach, and return'd to *Utrecht*.

On the other side, the Besiegers having now finish'd their

their Batteries, and approaches, gave the Besieged little or no rest; and after they had brought three Mines to that Perfection, that they were ready to spring, were preparing for a General storm. However the Confederate Generals, willing to spare their Men, if softer means would prevail, sent a new Summons to the Governour to surrender the Town, more especially since they had no hopes of Relief; declaring withal, that if they pleas'd they might send our whom they thought fit, to see the Mines that were ready to play, upon refusal to surrender upon Composition; and that they were resolv'd to make a General Assault, and put to the Sword without exception, all that they found in Arms. Which frightful Menaces so scar'd the Garrison, that after a Siege of few days, they beat a Parley, and the same day the usual Conditions being agreed upon, of marching forth with Colours flying and Drums beating, the Place was surrender'd with all the Provision and Amunition, and great Guns, excepting two that were allow'd by the Composition. Of the *French* Garrison there march'd out 1500. The rest being all kill'd or wounded: and of those fifteen hundred all the *Germans* deserted their Convoy, and list'd themselves in the Emperours service.

The Town thus taken, his Highness drew off to *Wesseling*, and thence falling down lower with his own, and the Imperial Army, (both which he now commanded upon the return of *Montecuculi* to *Vienna* till the arrival of the Duke of *Bournouville*) took in the two Castles of *Brevel* and *Lechnich*. Of which, the latter was defended by two hundred *French*, under the Command of a *German*: Who finding the Souldiers, after they had been summon'd, obstinately bent to stand upon their Guard, bethought himself of a stratagem to bring them to a compliance. To which purpose, he order'd the *French* to go down into the lower Court, under pretence of making that good first; and when they were all there, pull'd up the Draw-bridge behind their backs: by which means finding themselves expos'd to a far more numerous Party, they were constrain'd to surrender the Place.

This Castle in the year 1642. had been besieg'd by the whole Army of *Weimar* and *Hessen*, under the Command of the Counts of *Guebriant* and *Ebersteyn*, and batter'd for six Weeks together with extraordinary fury, and yet notwithstanding all their Efforts, they were constrain'd to raise their Siege.

All this while Marshal *Turenne* kept himself at a Distance; for though when he heard that the Confederates were late down before *Bon*, he had a great Mind to have attempted the Raising the Siege, yet when he heard that the Duke of *Lorain* lay quarter'd upon the Banks of the *Me-selle*, to observe his Motion, he wheel'd about into the Electorate of *Mayence*, highly complaining that he could have no better Intelligence of the Conjunction of the Confederates.

Strange were the Effects of this Expedition of his Highness the Prince of *Orange*. For it put the *French* into such a Consternation to see such Recoyls of Fortune, that they who lately menac'd with so much insulting Pride, the Ruine of others, were now at their Wits end how to save themselves. Willingly they would have oppos'd his Designs, but they wanted Recruits, and found that Men were not so soon born as kill'd. Their infinite Multitudes were now reduc'd to those small Numbers, that they were not able to keep the Field, without extreamly exhausting their Garrisons. They that were such ill Husbands of the Creation, and so profuse of Human Race, as to squander away so many Generations of Mankind, would now have been glad of half their havock'd Multitudes to keep their wither'd Garlands from dropping from their Foreheads. They that were so lavish of whole Armies, as if they only conquer'd to depopulate, and car'd not what they spent of their own Plenty, to be Masters of the impoverish'd Rights of Others, now found too late, that Victory bought too dear, was rather Calamity then Conquest, since

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Conquests could not be preserv'd without the Assistance of the same Force with which they were at first obtain'd ; beaten at a Distance by their own Prodigality, and constrain'd to surrender back their Victories by their former Want of Courage and Resolution. While the Prince on the other side, penurious of his Men, and only venturing the Lives of his Souldiers, while he expos'd his own, upon the just Call of self Defence, gain'd easie Triumphs over the Living, for want of the Dead ; and Victory courted his Prudence, finding her self so unsafe in the Rashness of his Enemies, who had fought so ill, that they were forced to repent that they had ever been her Favorites. Not upon these Considerations, but upon these Necessities, to which they had reduc'd themselves, the *French* were compell'd to quit a great part of their Conquests in the *Low Countries*, and drain their Garrisons, rather than suffer the powerful Armies of the Confederates, to recover the Cities of the *Rhine*, the *Meuse* and *Mosell* without Resistance.

WOERDEN was the first Place cleared, as being one of the first that had felt their Tyranny. Where the Governor receiv'd Orders from the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to demolish the Bulwarks of the Town, and to send away all the great Guns and Ammunition too. But as in Bodies possess'd, the ejected Spirit never leaves his Habitation without some terrible Marks of his Rage before his Expulsion ; the Governor, before he stirr'd, sent for the Magistrates, and demanded twenty thousand Franks to redeem their City from Plunder and Conflagration, pretending Orders from the King
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and Duke of *Luxemburgh*, unless they pay'd the said Sum, to fire the Town. Nor could they prevail with all their Submissions to the Duke, whom they attended at *Utrecht*, for less than fifteen thousand Livres to save Burning, and one thousand Livres to preserve their Palisadoes, with Condition that their Gates, Bulwarks and Castle should remain entire; for the Payment of which, they gave Hostages. Yet such was their Treachery nevertheless, that the *French* had undermin'd the Castle and one of the Bastions; and had certainly blown up both, had not the Ruin been prevented by the Discovery of certain *Switzers*.

HERDERWICK was utterly dismantled; nevertheless they demanded 12000 Livres for their Kindness in leaving it; but in regard that all the Inhabitants of Substance had left the City before, there was nothing to be had.

The Fort of *CREVECEVR* was utterly demolish'd; yet they offer'd to leave the Church and Governor's House upon the payment of 3000 Pistoles by those of *Bois le Duke*; which being refused, they spar'd neither the House, nor the Church.

BOMMEL, a Fortress of great consequence, upon the Fortifications of which, the King of *France* had expended above sixty thousand Livres, was quitted at the same time; the Inhabitants giving twelve Hostages to pay thirty six thousand Livres for the Ransom of their Houses.

UTRECHT, where the *French* had been always constrain'd to keep a Garison of six or seven thousand Men at least, and therefore proving now too Chargeable, was the next deserted Place;

but not without Hostages given for the Payment of one hundred thousand Crowns. And now the *French* being all departed in one day, the Burgo-masters absolv'd each other from their Oaths, which they had taken against the Restoration of the Prince of *Orange*, and sent their Deputies to his Highness, to acknowledge him their Stateholder in the Name of the whole Province. A Change no less sudden then Grateful to all the People.

In the same manner *Elburgh* upon the South-Sea, *Campen* in *Overyssel*, and *Hattem* were quitted by the *French*, and *Steenwick* and *Meppell* by the *Munsterians*.

'Thus his Highness may in some measure be said to have outdone *Cæsar* himself; for he vanquish'd where he neither *came* nor *saw*. Only the Enemy submitted to his distant Conduct, beholding the Period of their Victories in his rising Glory.

1674.

IN Consideration of this great and unexpected Turn of Affairs, occasion'd by the great Wisdom and Prowess of his Highness, the States General, no less Grateful, then the Prince had been Indefatigable for the Publick, not only confirm'd the Charge of *Stat-holder* of the Provinces of *Holland* and *West Friezland*, in the Person of his Highness during Life, but setl'd it likewise upon the Heirs Males of his Body, begotten in Lawful Marriage, according to the Tenor of the following Decree, not to be left out in this Place,

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as being so fair a Monument of his surpassing Merits.

Friday, February the 2d. 1674.

Having taken into Deliberation, by way of Resumption, what the Lords Deputies of the City of Haerlem proposed to the Assembly the twenty third of January last past, whether it would not be expedient, that the Charge of Stat-holder and Captain and Admiral General of the Provinces of Holland and West-Freizland, and Captain and Admiral General of the United Provinces, should descend upon the Heirs Males of his Highness the Prince of Orange, begotten in Lawful Marriage, as by the Rolls of the same Date more amply may appear. WE, the Body of the Nobility, and the Deputies of the Cities, in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Burghers and Commonalty of the said Cities, have declar'd, and do declare by these Presents, that having deliberately consider'd the State and Constitution of the Government of these Countries, as it was in former Times, by the Blessing of God, under the most Illustrious Princes of Orange, of glorious Memory, His Highness's Predecessors, and particularly what has befallen this Republic, for these twenty three or twenty four Years last past, till now, we have observ'd that this Republic has been afflicted with several Calamities and Disasters, as well Domestic as Foreign, ever since the sad and unfortunate Year 1650. That as to Our Foreign Calamities, We have never been without Wars, or the Fears of Wars: More particularly, one most dreadful War between the Kingdom of England and these States, which shook the very Foundations of the Government of these Countries, so that hardly it

has recover'd Breath ever since the said War; and another against the Crown of Portugal, in the Years 1656. and 1658. and 1659. and another occasioned by the Interest of the Northern Wars. That in the Year 1664. they had another new War with the King of Great Britain, and now this present War more sad and fatal than all the rest. And that during the whole Course of the said War, this Republick has been constrain'd to suffer many Affronts from her Neighbours, to whom She was before a Terrour. That as to our Domestic Affairs, We have been overwhelm'd with Intestine Divisions and Factions. That from the Year 1650. to the Year 1660. several Members of this Republic have had a particular Aversion to the Person of the present Prince of Orange, the only Son of that Illustrious Family; and that others on the contrary have zealously maintain'd, that the said Prince ought not to be so ungratefully abandon'd. That the King of Great Britain being recall'd to the Government of his Dominions, and passing through these Countries, in order to his Embarking for England, this Republic testify'd, as well to his Majesty, as to the Princesses Royal and Dowager, that they would take particular Care of the Interest and Education of his Highness, and to restore him to the Dignities which his Illustrious Ancestors, of glorious Memory, had enjoy'd. But that after the Death of the said Princess Royal, all Good Will and Affection toward his Highness was lost, and no farther notice taken of him, till of late, that some Care was taken of his Education, and that at length, toward the end of 1671. or 1672. great Contests arose about the Election of his Highness to be Captain General of the Militia of this Country. That we have found by sad Experience, that the said Intestine Divisions and Factions have given an
Occasion

Occasion to the Enemies of this Republick to affront us every moment, as knowing well that they render Us incapable to mind Our own Defence, by the Violation of that Union which laid the Foundation of this Republick, and which God has so miraculously blest. And that the Differences which arose every day about the Election of a Captain General of the Militia, and the Discords which hapned among the principal Members of this Republick were the Occasions that retarded and hindered those Deliberations and Resolutions, which of necessity ought to have been taken, to repel foreign Force, and made us spend in idle Disputes, that precious Time which ought to have been better husbanded. That the said Divisions were the Reason, that toward the Year 1671. when the King of France openly declar'd that he would make a War against this Country, we consum'd whole Months together in deliberating about the Election of a Captain General, and whether to pitch upon the Person of his Highness, which Time ought to have been spent in providing for the Defence of the State. And that for the same Reason it was, that the King of France invaded this Country by force of Arms, in the Year 1672. and reduc'd Us to the last Extremities and Hazard of total Ruine. That therefore the Lords, the States of Holland, have deem'd it necessary, as the only Expedient that they can imagin or hope for, absolutely to pluck up by the Roots the Occasions of the said Factions and Divisions, to prevent their falling any more into those Misfortunes and Miseries to which they have been hitherto exposed; and on the other side, to acknowledge the great Services which the most Illustrious House of Orange has from time to time perform'd for the Preservation and Establishment of this Republick. For these Reasons, the Lords of the Body of the Nobility,

bility, as also the Deputies of the Cities have unanimously conferr'd, and by these Presents do confer, in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Burghers and Commonalty of the said Cities, upon his Highness and his Heirs Male, begotten in Lawful Matrimony, the Charge of Stat-holder, Captain and Admiral General of the Provinces of Holland and West-friezland, with all the Dignities, Preeminences, Prerogatives, Rites and Priviledges thereto belonging, without any Exception or Reservation, in as ample and, in the same manner, as the same Charge is at present executed by his Highness. And consequently, that after the Decease of his said Highness (to whom nevertheless the States of Holland wish a long and happy Life, in all Health and Prosperity) the said Charge of Stat-holder, Captain and Admiral General of the Provinces of Holland and West-friezland, with all the Dignities, Preeminences, Prerogatives, Rites and Priviledges thereunto belonging, without any Exception or Reservation, shall devolve and descend upon his Heirs Males, begotten in Lawful Wedlock. In pursuance of which Resolution, the said Lords of the Body of the Nobility have order'd Letters Patents to be drawn up, and Seal'd with the Great Seal of the said Provinces, &c.

The same Day also the States of Zealand conferr'd the same Dignities upon his Highness, and made him withal Hereditary Noble of their Province.

And now it was high time to cleanse that Augean Stable of Disorder and Confusion, with which the French had over-run and contaminated the settl'd Government of those Provinces, where they

they had left behind them the Slot and Defilement of their Licentious Violence. Therefore the Prince, well knowing it was no less the Glory of a Sovereign Governour to correct and reform at Home, as well as to Conquer Abroad, and that the Recovery of lost Territories was but half Performance, till they were reduc'd to their Pristine Methods of antient Laws and Customs, hasten'd to *Utrecht*, to re-settle the Government of that Province.

To which purpose, he was no sooner arriv'd in that City, but he repair'd to the Assembly of Estates, and in Place made a new Election of Persons to officiate in the Colledge of Counsellors Elect. After that, he made a new Choice of others to represent the Body of the Nobility; and in the last place, made a select Choice of Men of Ability and Integrity to officiate in the Magistracy and Council of the City.

This done, his Highness gave them to understand, that at the Request of several of the Burghers, he had drawn up a Draught of certain Orders, for the better Government of the Province for the future, yet that he would not impose any thing upon them, without the Advice and Approbation of them that were present. Upon which they all retir'd to their several Assemblies, and after due Debate, unanimously submitted to the Regulations that his Highness had propos'd, which were to this Effect.

That the Government of the Province should reside in the Hands of three distinct Societies as formerly, the *Counsellors Elect*, the Body of the Nobility, and the *Deputies of the Cities.* That the
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Counsellors Elect should continue in their Places during the spaces of three years, and no longer, and that at the Expiration of the said Term (of which they were to give three Months Notice to the *Governour General*) it should be lawful for him to continue the Old ones, or make new Alterations as he pleas'd himself, without Contradiction, provided he introduc'd none but such as were of the Reformed Religion; and moreover, that of these *Counsellors Elect*, four were to be *Burghers*, and four *Gentlemen*.

That the *Governour General* should have the Disposal of the vacant Places of the *Provosts*, as also of the Revenues of the *Vicaridges* belonging to the *Provost*, *Deans* and *Friery Chapters*, so soon as they should become vacant, for the Relief of poor Ministers, and Widows of Ministers, and for other Pious Uses within the Province. That to avoid Disputes about the Convocation of the *Nobility*, the *Governour* should have the sole Power, upon the Death of any one or more of that Number, to invest in his or their Room, such Person or Persons as he should think fit, of the Reformed Religion, with respect to their Age, their Birth and Estate, with several other Particulars, in reference to the *Bayliffs* of Cities, *Presidents*, *Advocates*, *Fiscalls*, *Marshals* of the respective Quarters, and all Military Employments, of which, all the Vacancies after the first Nomination and Election of the *Governour General*, were to be, for the future, at his Disposal. And lastly, there was the Form of an Oath produc'd, which every one that were present took without any scruple, and which all others were oblig'd to take,

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Mutatis Mutandis, according to their several Functions. Lastly, upon a Proposal, whether it were not proper to confer the Office of *Governour General, Captain and Admiral General* of the Province upon his Highness and his Male Issue Lawfully begotten; the Proposition was unanimously embrac'd, and the Dignity conferr'd without any farther Delay. A strange and happy Turn, from constrain'd Servility, to willing and unanimous Submission, the one resembling Hell, the other Heaven upon Earth.

At the same time General *Rabenhaupt*, with the Militia of *Frise* and *Groninghen*, reinforc'd with the Regiment of *Burmania*, having taken the Field, made himself Master of *Northom*, which he mann'd with sixteen Troops of Horse, and six Companies of Foot, and thence advancing into the *Twent*, took in several lesser Places, with an intent to clear those Parts of the *Munsterians*, to which purpose he prolong'd his March as far as *Nyenbuys*. Presently the *Munsterians* upon Notice of his Absence surround *Northom* again with five Regiments of Horse, three Troops of Dragoons, and three hundred Foot under M. General *Nagel*, and beat the Out-guards of the Garrison into the Town. Of which General *Rabenhaupt* having Intelligence, hastens back to the Relief of the Place, and forc'd the Enemy to a swift retreat with the loss of sixty Men slain upon the Place, and fifty taken Prisoners. The next day he return'd to *Nyenbuys*, and because he was resolv'd to make quick Work, gave Order to five several Regiments, to storm the Town in five several Places at once. Which was done with that fury,
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that after a quarter of an hours dispute, the Enemy was driven into the Castle, which was only a House environ'd with a single Rampart defended by two great Guns; Which the Assailants pursuing their Advantage were just ready to enter when the Enemy cryed for Quarter, and had it granted to the whole Garrison, to the Number of three hundred and twenty Foot, and thirteen Officers; and two hundred and seventy Horse and Dragoons, and fifteen Officers. General *Rabenhaupt* thus successful returns to his Winter Quarters and disperses his Men; which *Nagel* had no sooner Notice of, but he returns to *Nyenbuys*, and recovers it again for the Bishop of *Munster*.

However the Bishop of *Munster* not liking these uncertain Chances of War, or rather dreading upon the Approach of the *Imperialists*, the loss of his own, while he was invading his Neighbours Territories, makes his peace with the Emperor. Which so discourag'd the *French* in the Frontier Garrisons of their *Netherland* Conquests not yet forsaken, that the *Marquis* of *Bellefonds*, who succeeded Marshal *d'Humieres* in the Government of those Parts, resolv'd to quit the rest, under pretence of a greater necessity to preserve their Acquisitions upon the *Rhine*. Besides he had Intelligence of the Prince of *Oranges* intended March into *Brabant*, with Thirty thousand Men to joyn the *Spanish* Army of Twenty Thousand more. So that the *Marquis* instead of fortifying, began to think of demolishing all the Places that remain'd under his Command. *Tiel* compounded for 20000 *Florins* to save themselves from Plunder and Conflagration, and 2000 for the

the Preservation of their Bulwarks. *Zutphen* agreed for 70000 *Florins* and gave twelve Hostages: and the City of *Arnheime* concluded with the *French* Treasurer, for a hundred and sixty *Florins*, besides 4000 Bushels of Wheat and Meal, which they were oblig'd to send to *Graves*. *Deventer* was also cleared by the Bishop of *Munster* for 4000 *Rix Dollers*, and gave Hostages. And thus the whole Province of *Overysfel* regain'd their ancient Liberty, under their Native and Lawful Sovereigns. Thereupon his Highness deputed Commissioners, to make such Alterations in the Government as was requisite for the present, and to settle the Affairs of those Parts, till he had leisure to make a second review, and compleat the Regulation of the *French* Disorders.

The King of *France* seem'd highly to be offended at these Proceedings of the *Marquess*, casts him quite out of his favor, sends him back into *France*, and as it were exiles him to *Bourguise*, commanding him not to appear at Court. Though others were of opinion that they were only Bravado's to conceal his Necessities, and that he was glad of those Reinforcements to carry on his Designs upon *Franchie Conte*. However all men ascrib'd the Honour of these constrained Desertions to his Highness of *Orange*; and well indeed they might, as being the Person who like another *Scipio*, by carrying the War into the Enemies Country, had in less than two years time, compell'd all the *French Hannibals* to quit his own, and to look after the main Chance.

However the King of *France* having thus lost in one place, like the Sea, resolves to gain in another,

ther, and to that purpose enters with an Inundation of Men into *Franchie Comté*. Where under the Protection and Guard of another Army as numerous as his own, commanded by the Prince of *Conde*, in a short time he took *Becanfon*, *Dole*, *Malins*, and made himself Master, according to his wishes, of the whole Province.

Upon the Assembling of these two Numerous Bodies together, his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, repairs to the Army at *Berghen op Zoom*; from whence he Marches for *Malines*, and lay upon his Guard in *Brabant*, during all the time of the King of *France's* new Neighbourhood. But he being departed for *Paris*, after he had compleated his Conquest, with the loss of many a brave Officer, and some thousands of his stoutest Soldiers, the *Imperialists* fall down to *Namur*, and by the taking of the Castle and *Dinant*, having obtain'd a free passage over the *Meuse*, cross the River, and joyn with the rest of the Confederates toward the end of *July*. At what time after a short Conference between the three Generals, it was order'd that General *Souches* should lead the Van; that his Highness the Prince of *Orange* should command the main Battel, and the *Count de Monterey* the Rear-guard. In this Order it was that the Confederates prepar'd to Attack the Prince of *Conde*, who with an Army of Fifty thousand Men, lay Encamp'd behind the River *Méton*, to thwart the Designs of the Enemy. On the other side the Confederates being Sixty thousand strong, resolv'd to draw the Prince from his Post, and give him Battel; to which purpose they March'd directly toward him; being plentifully suppli-
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ed with all manner of Provisions out of *Brabant*.

With this resolution the three Armies arriv'd at *Nivel*, at the beginning of *August*; where they Encamp'd for some days. But because they saw that the Prince of *Conde* made no Preparations to come forth, but rather sought to fortify himself to greater advantages within his Trenches, the Confederates thought it necessary to make their Approaches a little nearer to him; to try whether he would hazard a Battel in the open Field. To which purpose being arriv'd within five or six Miles of the *French* Camp, they labour'd by all the ways imaginable to draw the Prince of *Conde* out of his Trenches. But all in vain; for the Prince, whether it were by Order of the King, or the effect of his own deliberations, would not stir. Thereupon seeing all their Pains prov'd ineffectual, they resolv'd to Attack some place of importance belonging to the *French*, believing that the Prince would issue forth to relieve it, and that so they might compass Designs.

With these Resolutions of his Highness of *Orange* decamp'd from *Seneff*, and directed his March toward *Binch*. The *Imperialists* had the *Van-guard*, the *Holland* Army the main Battel, and the *Spaniards* brought up the Rear. Moreover, by reason of the narrowness of the Passages the Cavalry March'd on the Left hand, the Infantry in the Middle, and the Artillery together with the Baggage on the Left. And to secure their March, the *Count* of *Vaudement* was left behind with 4000 Horse and some Dragoons.

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The Prince of Conde having Intelligence of this Movement, and knowing well the difficulty of the ways, through which the Confederates were to pass, fail'd not to put his Men in Order. However because he did not think it so safe to cope with Confederates upon equal Terms, He therefore let the *Vanguard* pass, and a good Part the Main Body some Leagues before. But when he thought they were advanc'd so far before, that they could not return in time, he then thought it high time to fall upon their *Rearguard*. Thereupon the Prince drew out of his Trenches, and March'd directly against the Cavalry commanded by the Prince of *Vaudemont*, who finding himself in a Country where the Horse could not so well act their parts by reason of the many Ditches and Enclosures, sent to his Highness of *Orange* for two Battalions of Infantry, while his Horse were engag'd with the Enemy; thereupon, his Highness sent him three, under the Command of the Young Prince *Maurice* of *Nassau*. Being arriv'd they were placed on the other side of *Seneff*, before the Cavalry, in a kind of a Thicket. But for as much as the whole Army of the Enemy was now March'd out of their Trenches, it was thought convenient to send for the Troops that lay on the other side of the River which runs by *Seneff*; and then they planted the three Battalions of Foot, which were posted before in the *Wood*, close by the Bridge of *Seneff*, over which the *French* were to pass. There they had not been long, before the *French* attack'd as well the Cavalry as the Dragoons and Infantry, but notwithstanding all their fury, they could

could not force them to forsake their Post, so that the French were forc'd to quit their design of gaining that Pass, and made a Bridge over the River a little higher. So that after they had by that means joyn'd all their Forces together, the confederate Cavalry was rang'd behind the Infantry, yet so as they were still ready to come up to their relief. In the mean time the Foot fir'd with great fury upon the *French* that had past the River and had made a great slaughter. But in regard the confederates were very much streighten'd for want of Ground, and that the *French* fell in from all parts of the *Wood*, the confederate Infantry was forc'd to recoile, being overlaid by the numbers of the Enemy, which was the reason that they lost several of their Principal Officers. For here it was that the Young Prince *Maurice*, who Commanded the *Brigade*, was taken Prisoner with several other Officers, and that Lieutenant Collonel *Machwitz* was kill'd.

So soon as the Foot were retir'd, the *French* rigorously push'd on toward the Cavalry commanded by the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and the Prince of *Conde* began to range his Men in Battel-array, ordering his Foot to March under the coverts of the Hedges and Bushes. Thereupon the Confederate Horse were order'd to give them a home Charge. Which when they were preparing to do, they found a Hollow way between both Parties, so that they were order'd to wheel off to the Right hand, and joyn the rest of the Army, for fear the Enemy should intercept their Retreat and charge them in the Flanck. The *French* observing that, wheel'd away to the Left, and made such

hast to charge that Body of Cavalry, that the Prince of *Vaudemont* had only time to order the three Battalions of Foot, to make head against the Enemy. This first Encounter prov'd unfortunate to the Confederates; for that the three Commanders in Chief of this Brigade were all taken Prisoners with several others of the greatest Quality; as the Duke of *Holstein*, the Prince of *Solms* and *Permillac*, who were Prisoners, and Monsieur de *Languerac* slain. And though all endeavours were us'd to rally the four Battalions, there was no good to be done: for they betook themselves to flight, without discharging one Volley upon the Enemy. True it is that the Prince of *Vaudemont*, shew'd all the marks of an Extraordinary Courage and Valour. But all his Labours were in effectual. And here it was also, that his Highness of *Orange* gave particular Testimonies of his undaunted Bravery, leaving nothing omitted which the most ancient and most experienc'd Commander could have done. For he threw himself with his Sword in his Hand before the daunted Fugitives, and by all the ways imaginable endeavour'd to stop their flight, and with his own Example to encourage them to renew the Combat; So that he was often in danger either of being slain or taken Prisoner. But there was no good to be done till they were got under the Shelter of a Body of the *Spanish* Horse, that was posted at the Foot of a little Hill between them and the Village of *Tey*. Another Party of those run-aways joyn'd themselves with sixteen Battalions of Foot, under the Command of the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, who when the pursuing *French* drew near, march'd against them at the Head of his Troops, and

and perform'd all that could be expected from a Person of his Valor and Conduct, in the desperate Condition of Affairs at that time. The rest of the dismay'd Confederates joyn'd themselves with a Body of Infantry, that was likewise posted at the foot of the same Mountain.

On the other side the Prince of Conde, who was advanc'd so far in the pursuit, fell furiously upon the *Spanish* Cavalry, and the Foot which he had already driven thither for their security. Which caus'd the *Marquess* of *Assenar* to send for four Regiments more from the Foot of the Mountain to reinforce his Cavalry. Which the Prince of Conde observing, ordered five or six Battalions of Infantry to advance, together with a Brigade of Horse, and then dividing his conjoyned Troops into right and left Wings, Charged the Confederate Horse in Front, and put them into some disorder. And here it was again that the *Marquess* did the utmost he could, by his Example, to rally his Men and restore the Fight, till at length being Wounded in seven places, he was at last slain outright at the Head of his Troops. The Horse being thus disorder'd, fell foul upon the four Battalions of Infantry, that were sent to their Relief, and put them likewise into a great Confusion, notwithstanding all the Industry of the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, and the Prince of *Vaudemont* to rally them again; and not only so, but they disorder'd the remaining part of the Infantry that lay posted under the Mountain, though *Count Waldeck* did all he could to unite them again. But finding 'twas all but labour lost, he charged the Victorious Enemy in
I 2 flank,

flank, with a fresh Body of Horse, which had joyned him but a little before; And certainly there was all the reason in the world, to have expected a good Effect of this Encounter, considering the Valour and Experience of the Commander, had he been well Seconded; but being overlaid by the Numbers of the Enemy, he rescu'd himself out of the Medley, after he had slain two of his Antagonists, hand to hand; and at length bleeding from three Wounds recover'd the rest of the Body.

In the heat of this Hurly burly, some of the Enemies Battalions had made themselves Masters of the Baggage belonging to the *Holland* Army, and had Pillag'd some part. For the Waggoners instead of Barricading themselves within their Wagons, cut their Horses Harness, and flew full speed without ever looking behind them, some to *Brussels*, some to other Places, where they spread a Report that all was lost. And indeed the Prince had had a very great Advantage in this Battle, could he have been contented with what he had already gain'd; but his impetuous Nature would have all or none; which happen'd to be his Fate at length.

For after he had embattell'd together his own Life-Guard, his *Cuirasseers*, and the rest of his Troops that lay behind, he advanc'd toward the main Body of the Confederates, commanded next under his Highness of *Orange* by Prince *Maurice*, the *Rhine* Grave, and Major General *Vane*. At the same time General *Souches*, who lead the Vanguard, and was advanc'd some hours march before the rest of the Army, having Intelligence of what had past, hasten'd

hasten'd back with all speed, and by one of the clock in the Afternoon joyn'd the main Battle. At what time his Highness advantageously embattell'd the *Imperialists* and *Spaniards* in the left Wing, and gave the right to his own Men : And then it was, that the Fight renew'd with more Fury and Vigor then ever.

The D. of *Luxemburgh* commanded the Right Wing of the *French*, and the D. of *Nouailles* the left ; for the Marquis of *Rochfort*, the Chevalier *Tourilles*, and the Count of *Montal* were all three wounded already.

The first Contest of the *French* was the most furious that ever was known, during the whole War. Honour, Hatred, Revenge, Hope and Despair were the Incentives of their Valour on both sides. Hope of Victory animated both Armies, and both equally desperate seem'd equally resolv'd rather to dye than be o'recome. His Highness the Prince of *Orange*, shewing himself in all Places, omitted no Pains upon an Occasion so important, that might conduce to Victory ; sometimes throwing himself into the thickest of his Enemies, to the palpable hazard of his Life. And the Souldiers being animated by his Example, fought with Emulation to out-do one another ; so that it may be truly said, that they withstood the impetuous shock of the Enemy with a resistance not to be exprest. Which having disappointed the Prince of *Conde's* Expectations, he endeavour'd to wheel off his Men to the left ; but Mr. *de Fariaux*, a Person of approved Valor, and Major General of the *Holland Army*, being sent with some Squadrons of Infantry, seconded by the Count of *Chavagnaux*, who

commanded a Battalion of Imperial Cavalry to prevent that design, withstood the *French* with so much Bravery, that they were forc'd to retire; and upon that, the Count sent for four Pieces of Cannon, with which he annoy'd the Enemy much more. General *Souches* flung himself into the thickest of the Enemies, and gave those proofs of a more than ordinary Valor, which he was always wont to do upon the same occasions. The Prince of *Lorain* did no less, as He that was seen several times to fight at the head of the first Ranks, though not without the loss of some blood, he was at length forc'd to retire out of the Fight. Prince *Pio*, who was drawn up with his Brigade near the Village of *Seneff*, accompanied with the Marquis of *Grana* and the Count of *Starenburgh*, after he had signalized himself by many brave exploits, was wounded in the Thigh with a Musket Shot. But for all that, the Marquis of *Grana*, and the Sons of General *Souches* behav'd themselves so valiantly at the head of their Squadrons, that the *French Switzers* could not gain upon them an Inch of ground, which contributed very much to the ensuing success of the Battle.

In the meantime the Prince of *Conde* charg'd the Right Wing of the Confederates with his *Cuirasseurs*, and the Troops belonging to the King's House; but to as little purpose. Only that about seven a clock in the Evening he brake through two Squadrons of Foot that were drawn up in a Meadow at a distance. But such was then the signal Service which Prince *Maurice* did the *States*; that he stopp'd the Imperuosity of the Enemy, and prevented any farther Disorder on that side, with no

less conduct than courage. The *Rhinegrave* also, was so far from coming behind any of those, who behav'd themselves with the most undaunted Bravery, that it may be truly said, His Courage and Conduct were not a little contributory to the happy event of the Fight; till he was at length constrain'd to quit the Field by reason of a wound which he receiv'd. Major General *Vane*, and the *Sieur de Villamire*, having given signal Marks of their approved Valour, were both mortally wounded and dyed of their wounds.

Thus the two Armies fought till night, with an Obstinacy on both sides hardly to be parallel'd, tho the Field were all strew'd over with the Bodies of the slain and wounded. While the Combatants cover'd with blood and sweat, encourag'd one another the more by the sight of such a dismal Spectacle. You might see whole Battalions on both sides, sometimes recoyling, but then in an instant rally'd by the good Conduct of their Leaders: Among whom his Highness the *Prince of Orange* was still the First, who shew'd himself in all the heat of Action, encouraging his Men by his magnanimous Example. He was attended also by the *Prince of Frise*, a young Gentleman of about twenty years of Age, who fought all along by his Highness's side, in the thickest throngs of the Enemy, and perform'd all those duties of a Souldier which could be expected from a Prince so young, so valiant and generous.

And thus the Fury of the *French*, which at the beginning thought to have swept all before 'em, about ten a clock at night began to abate, the *French* Infantry, of which they had lost a considerable part,

drawing off at a distance, notwithstanding all the Endeavors of the Prince of *Conde* to have brought them on again. So that the Prince fearing some farther mischief might befall his Army, gave Orders also for the Horse to retire; only leaving certain Squadrons of Dragoons behind to secure their Retreat; which he likewise afterwards drew off, so soon as he found the remaining Part of his Army safe; leaving by that means the Victory and Possession of the Field of Battle to his Highness the Prince of *Orange*; who two hours after the Retreat of the *French* drew off his Army also to their appointed Quarters. However he left *Monsieur de Fariaux* all that Night in the Field to observe the Motions of the Enemies; who ill digesting their rude Entertainment the day before, were so far from making any farther Attempt, that the Prince of *Conde*, only left some few Dragoons in his Old Quarters, and retired three hours March up higher, fearing the pursuit of the Confederates.

Thus ended this Bloody Battel, wherein the Confederates had the worst at the beginning, but carry'd away the Victory at the conclusion. For on the Enemies side were Slain seven Thousand Men outright, besides the wounded of which the Prince of *Conde* left above own thousand five hundred in the Villages round about, upon his leaving his old Quarters at *Pieton*. On the side of the Confederates the whole number of Slain Wounded, taken Prisoners and Deserters, did not amount to above six thousand five hundred in all: besides that of the last several that were dispeirc'd and scatter'd from their Companions in the Heat

of the Medley, soon after return'd to their Colours.

It is said that there was a Letter intercepted from the Prince of Conde to the King of France, wherein he gave him an accompt, *that upon a General Review of his Army, he found himself but in a sorry Condition, as having lost the Flower of his Infantry, and the best part of his Horse, and therefore did not think himself strong enough to hazard a second encounter.* Which was agreeable to the Lists of the Slain and Wounded on the French side. For not to reckon the Wounded, the List of the Slain in the French Army, contained ;

The Marquisses of *Chauvalan,*
De Clemerant,
De Bourbon, and
De Illiers.

Three Counts,

Two Cornets of the *Kings* Guards.

Above forty Officers of the Guards of the *Kings* Body.

Forty three Officers of the *Kings* Regiment.

Fourscore Officers of the *Queens* Guards.

Three Regiments Totally ruined.

Seven hundred *Switzers* of the *Kings* Life Guard of Foot.

Nine Collonels : and eight Lieutenant Collonels and Majors.

One hundred sixty five Captains, besides Inferiour Officers.

In the List of the Slain on the side of the Confederates, were,

The Marquis of *Assenar,*

Major

Major General *Vane*,
 The *Sieur de Villamaire*,
 The *Sieur de Langerac*,
 Five Collonels,
 Four Lieutenant Collonels,
 Several Captains and Inferiour Officers.

So that it was no wonder that the Prince of *Condé* acknowledged the ill Plight of his Army, after such a slaughter of his best and stoutest Officers; a loss far more irreparable then ten fold the number of common Souldiers. So that had it not been for the Advantage which the *French* had at the beginning of the Fight, it is much to be questioned whether the Prince of *Condé* must not have been forc'd to have been the unfortunate Messenger himself of an Absolute Defeat. Nor was the taking of the white standard of *France* (which was afterwards with great Solemnity hung up in the Church of the *Carmelites* in *Brussels* richly Embroider'd with Gold and Silver, with a *Sun* in the middle passing through the *Zodiac*, with this haughty Motto, *Nil obstat Eunti*) a mean argument of the Confederates Victory. All which redounded to the Eternal Honour of his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, and which was no more then *General Souches* himself confess'd in his Letter to the *States* in these, among other words.

'I have endeavour'd to discharge my duty in attending his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, during the Bloody and Famous Battle between the Confederate Armies and that of the most Christian King; the happy Issue of which has prov'd so much to the Glory of the Prince of *Orange*, who shew'd upon that occasion the prudence

of

' of an Aged Captain, the courage of a Cesar, and the
' undaunted Bravery of a Marius. All which, my
' Lords, I speak without Flattery, which is contrary to
' my Nature.

The next day after the fight, his Highness marched by Mons, with his whole Army, and took up his Head quarters at St. Gilaine, where he was recruited with five Dutch Regiments, and the Imperialists removed to Queveraine, where they lay still without my considerable Action till about the Eleventh or Twelfth of September.

In the mean time General Rabenhaupt undertook the Siege of Graves. Which considering the Scituation of the Place, the strength of the Garrison, the plenty of Provision and Ammunition with which it was provided, the furious Attacques of the Beseigers, and the vigorous resistance within, render'd it one of the most memorable Seiges that have happen'd for many years: and the more remarkable, for that it could not be taken, till his Highness the Prince of Orange was at leisure to set his helping Hand to it's reduction.

The Garrison consisted of ninety one Companies of Foot, amounting in all to four thousand Men, and nine Troops of Horse. The Sieur de St. Louis, an ancient and experienc'd Souldier commanded the Horse; and the Marquis de Chamilly, a valiant and expert Captain was Governour of the Town; wherein were four hundred and fifty peices of Canon, of which a hundred were mounted upon the Bulwarks; besides an infinite quantity of Powder Corn, Granados and other Warlike Ammunition;
for

for the *French* had made a Hoor'd in that place of all that they had brought away from their deserted Conquests.

Before this Place, as being a great Annoyance to all the Neighbouring parts, General *Rabenhaup* sat down with about twenty Regiments of Foot and some Horse, soon after reinforc'd with three Regiments of Foot and two hundred Horse under the command of *D. John de Pimentel*, from the Prince of *Curland*; and after that, with two Regiments of Horse from the *Elect*or of *Brandenburgh* under the leading of Major General *Spaen*. *Hindebech* lodg'd himself behind the great *Damm*, on that side next the *Vesp*; as *Gulsteine* also did, on that side next *Overyssel*. The *Brandenburgh* Horse lay more toward the *East*, to prevent releif from getting into the Town. And the General himself made his Approaches as far as the Castle of *Vegefac*. And thus the City being surrounded on every side, the Seige was carry'd on with no less violence by the Assailants, then vigorously defended by those within.

In the mean time this Highness the Prince of *Orange*, together with the *Imperialists* lay Quarter'd upon the Borders of *Haynault*, and being now well recover'd from the disorder of the late Battle, began to think of farther Action. To which purpose, when the great Convoy from *Brussels* was arriv'd, together with the *Spanish* Army, consisting of eight thousand Foot, besides the Horse and Dragoons, his Highness decamp'd with the whole Army, the twelfth of *September* and cross'd the River of *Haine* by *Tournay* and *Atb*, from thence designing for *Audenard*. In the mean time two Regiments

Regiments of Foot, and two thousand five hundred Horse approaching nere to *Gaume* were sent to break down the Bridges of *Deynse* and *Harlebeke* upon the River *Leye* and so to return to the Army. The same Evening the said Regiments were put aboard several Barges with all sorts of Ammunition and Provisions together with five hundred Pioners, and sent away to *Oudenard*, being follow'd by a Body of two thousand five hundred Horse, which posted themselves that Night before the Town, and shut up all the Passages to the Garrison on that side. His Highness the Prince of *Orange* and General *Souches* arriv'd at the same time, and took up their Quarters, the Prince in the Abbey of *Ename*, and the Count of *Souches* on the other side of the River at *Leupegem* and *Ehare*; and the Spaniards under the Marquis of *Villa Hermosa* at *Beveren* and *Moregem*. There was in the Town four hundred Germans, six thousand *Switzers*, one thousand French, and four hundred Horse, under the Command of the *Sieur de Rosquaire*. And now the Confederates having finish'd their approaches, were already Masters of the *Counterescarp*, when the Prince of *Condé* being decamp'd from *Beaumont*, began to approach with his whole Army consisting of forty thousand Men, with a resolution to give the Confederates Battle if he could not otherwise relieve the Town. Thereupon it was the Advice of his Highness to make ready without delay and meet the Enemy, while they were yet weary and tir'd with a long march. But this magnanimous resolution took no effect, by reason that General *Souches* was not to be seen all that day; so that the Army was forc'd to continue

tinue in their Trenches. In the mean time the *French* advanc'd on the other side toward the Imperialists. But the Count of *Souches* instead of ranging his Men in order to a Battle, drew out off his Trenches, and crosses the River in so much hast, that he left some peices of Cannon behind him which his Highness had sent him, and which his Highness was forc'd to recover not without some danger. Thereupon the Prince of *Condé*, having his way open, enter'd the Town with part of his Army. And certainly he might have had a great advantage to have cut off the Communication between the Confederates, had not a thick Fog that fell of a suddain prevented his design.

His Highness therefore, considering the condition of Affairs thought it not safe to hazard his Army any longer in that place, and therefore march'd after the Imperialists and *Spaniards* whom he overtook within a League of *Oudenard*. There his Highness drew up his Army, while the Prince of *Condé* having pass'd with all his Forces through *Oudenard*, Embattell'd his Men at the Foot of the Mountain of the *Trinity*, between the City and the Confederates. But in regard there was a narrow pass between both Armies where six Men could hardly march a breast, which would of necessity disorder and endanger the breaking of those that made the first Assault ; that was the Obstacle that prevented the Battle ; while the Confederates were unwilling to begin the conflict at such a disadvantage, and the Prince of *Condé* thought he had done enough to releive the Town. Thereupon the Confederates, finding the *French* resolv'd

resolv'd to keep their Post, drew off, and took the Road toward *Gaunt*, for the Conveniency of Provision. But here General *Sauches* gave his Highness another occasion of Distaste, for that instead of following the rest of the Army, having the Rere-guard, he wheel'd off a quite contrary way; so that his Highness was forc'd to send some of his own Men to secure his own Retreat.

In this Disorder and Distraction, caus'd by the Imperialists, his Highness finding no more Good to be done, resolv'd to march back to *Graves*, where his Presence would be more necessary because of the Siege, leaving Count *Waldeck* to command the Army in his Absence; where he arriv'd the 9th. of *October*, with sixty Cornets of Horse. His Highness's Presence gave new Courage to the Besiegers. Nevertheless, such was the strenuous and resolute Defence of the Besieged, that notwithstanding the daily Attacques of the Assailants, and that they were reduc'd to drink Water for want of other Liquor, they held out till the 25th. of *October*. At what time *Chamilly* finding such wide Breaches in the Fortifications, much more widen'd by the lucky blowing up of a Mine, that set Fire to a great number of Granados in the *Brugg Port*, and made a large Breach in the *Cover Way*, so that it would be impossible for him to hold out against a general Storm that was intended the next day; first, desired a Cessation of Arms for three or four hours, and within that time, took an Occasion to beat a Parley. Upon which, Hostages being given on both sides, and Commissioners sent forth to treat, the Surrender of the Town was at length agreed upon honourable Articles; and thus ended this Years Campaign.

1675.

THE beginning of this Year began with the Grateful Acknowledgments of the *Towns-men*, of the signal Services which his High. the Prince of *Orange* had done them in redeeming them from the Calamities and Miseries which they had suffer'd under the Tyranny of a Foreign Enemy. For which reasons, they offer'd him the Sovereignty of the Dutchy of *Guelders* and County of *Zutphen*, under the Titles of Duke of *Guelders*, and Count of *Zutphen*. But his believing that his Acceptance of those Dignities would but create Jealousie and Mistrust in some, and that others would infer from thence, that he only sought to aggrandize himself by War; therefore to convince the World of the sincerity of his Intentions, he deem'd it more proper to refuse those additional Honours; but being at the same time offer'd the Command of Governour Hereditary of the same Province, he readily accepted of that Dignity, and after he had taken his Oath, made those Alterations in the Government as suited best to the Reformation of those Disorders which the Possession of lawless Enemies had introduc'd. No less applauded for settling the Civil, than managing the Military, Concerns of his Country: which it was high time for him again to look after, and that with the soonest, in regard of the continual Alarms of the King of *France's* Resolutions early to take the Field in Person, this Spring. To that purpose he was continually present at all the Grand Consultations for carrying on the Summers War, the Toil
of

of which Deliberations, lay'd him in his Bed for a time, under the unfortunate Delay of the Small-Pox, which was the more lamented in him, because it had before prov'd so fatal to his Relations in the Persons of his Father, his Mother, and the Duke of *Glocester*; but by the Care and good Management of an able Physician, and certain peculiar Remedies sent him by the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, his Highness recover'd, to the universal Joy of the United Netherlands.

And now being abroad again, he hasten'd to the General Rendevouz at *Rosendaël*, for the King of *France* being now upon his March for *Brabant*, there was a Necessity for the Prince to attend his Motion. More especially *Limburgh* being besieged by the Marquis of *Rocheport* requir'd speedy Relief. To which purpose, his Highness remov'd with his Army from *Duffell*, and joyns the Dukes of *Luttenburgh* and *Lorrain* at *Gangelt*, with a Resolution to raise the Siege. And it might have come to a Royal Battel between his Highness and the King of *France* himself, (for that the King, who then lay encamp'd near *Mastricht*, hearing of the Prince's March, re-pass'd the *Meuse* at *Vifet*, to oppose his Design) but that the Town, not able to withstand the Numbers of the *French*, was forc'd to surrender sooner than was expected.

After the taking of *Limburgh*, the King of *France* encamp'd near *Tillemont*, wasting all the Country about *Lovain*, *Brussels* and *Malines*, and fain he would have been at *Lovain* it self, but that his Highness, together with the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, watch'd him so narrowly, that he would

not venture to meddle with it. So that seeing there was no more good to be done, contented with his Atcheivment of *Limburgh*, he return'd to *Paris*, leaving *Conde* to attend the Prince's Motions, as the Prince had attended upon his.

And indeed those two wary Generals watch'd one another so well, that neither could get any Advantage of the other. But *Conde* was soon after commanded into *Alsatia* upon the Loss of *Turenne*. And now the Prince had to do with a new General, the Army being left to the Command of the Count de *Montmorency*. Who, though a Captain no less wary than his Predecessor, yet his Highness had this Advantage of him, that he kept him from disturbing the Leaguer before *Treves*, so that at length, that City, after the fatal and utter Overthrow of Monsieur *Cregui*, fell into the Hands of the Imperialists.

It may be wonder'd that his Highness and Monsieur de *Montmorency* should lye so near together, almost within View one of another, and yet no more considerable Action pass between them. But *Montmorency* well knew that *France* had already receiv'd two deep Wounds, by the Loss of her choicest General, and *Cregui's* Army, and therefore was unwilling to hazard a Third, that perhaps might prove more mortal. Which was the reason that he suffer'd *Binck* to surrender to his Highness at Discretion, a Garrison of three hundred and fifty Men, and a great quantity of Provision, almost in view of his Army. The Fortifications of which, his Highness afterwards caus'd to be undermin'd and blown up, to render it unserviceable to the Enemy. But it appear'd afterwards,
that

that *Montmorency* had no Orders to give his Highness Battle ; and therefore, though upon the Approach of ten thousand of the *French* Cavalry, as his Highness had reason to suspect, with an Intention to attack his Rear-guard, he had drawn up his Army in a large Plain, where it was easie to have come to a fair and equal Encounter, the wary Marshal would not advance, but retreated without making the least Attempt ; so that his Highness finding the time of the Year far spent, broke up his Army and return'd to the *Hague*.

1676.

SO dreadful and so innumerable were the Miseries and Calamities of War, that now for some years together had harrafs'd and depopulated the greatest part of Europe, that several Princes began not only to compassionate her Miseries, but made it their Business to study the most proper means, and most probable, to put a stop to the rapid Violence of incessant Misfortunes, under which, the afflicted People daily languish'd. However little Progress could be made in so glorious a Work, and so beneficial for the Common Good of Christendom ; till at length his Majesty of Great Britain, *Charles* the Second, having concluded a Peace with *Holland*, shew'd himself no less zealous to extinguish the General Conflagration, and to procure an universal Peace amongst all the Christian Princes, which *Europe* so much wanted. To which purpose, taking upon him the noble and high Office of a Mediator, there was nothing which

he omitted, no Stone that he left unturn'd, to induce others to follow his Example. Many were the Obstructions, and many the Delays of State *Punctilios*, that for some time retarded his Design. But such was his Royal Care and indefatigable Diligence in removing those Obstacles, and giving Satisfaction to the discording Interest, that finding no way well to refuse the Mediation of so great a Monarch, upon whose Justice and Prudence they had no less reason to rely; all the contending Parties agreed to submit to his Umpirage; and *Nimeghen* being the Place agreed upon for the Treaty, thither the Plenipotentiories began, toward the beginning of this year, to repair from all Parts, as to the general Rendevouz of Peace. So that War and Peace might seem to have vouchsafed each other now an Interview, and to be at a kind of Civil Strife which should get the upper Hand.

However, in regard all Parties stood for Honourable Terms, the Preparations for War were carry'd on with no less Vigor against the Spring, then if no such thing as Peace had been in agitation. So that his Highness the Prince of *Orange* had Winter Employment enough to get his Army ready against the Spring. For it was easie to see that there would need a powerful Opposition against the Common Enemy, so soon as the Season serv'd. And indeed before the middle of *April* the *French* began to form considerable Musters under Marshal *Crequi* near *Charleville*; and Marshal *d'Humieres*, having got together a Body of fifteen thousand Men near *Courtray*, took the Field, with a design to have fallen into the Country of
Waes;

Waes ; but being repuls'd from thence, he forc'd his Way into that of *Alost*, and put all the Inhabitants under Contribution, the *Spaniards* being too weak to resist him.

This hasten'd his Highness the Prince of *Orange's* March from *Rosendael* to joyn the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, which he did at *Cambren* the twenty sixth of *April*. But before this, Marshal *Crequi* had surrounded *Conde* with an Army of sixteen thousand Men. Upon the News of which, the King of *France* hasten'd from *Paris*, follow'd soon after by the Duke of *Orleans*, and bringing with him a Reinforcement of ten thousand Men ; the Town was so furiously batter'd and storm'd on every side, that the Garison was forc'd to surrender at discretion, not able to hold out against so powerful an Assailant, notwithstanding that his Highness was march'd as far as *Granville* toward their Relief. But there understanding that the Town was taken, he made a Halt ; and directing his March towards *Mons*, posted himself not far from *Espinliers*, while the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* lay at *Nemy*, to observe the Motion of the Enemy. The King of *France* having given Order for repairing the Fortifications of *Conde*, and put a Garison of three thousand Men into the Place, order'd the Duke of *Orleans*, with the Forces under Marshal *Crequi*, which were about sixteen thousand Men, to besiege *Bomchainne*, a small, but strong Town, seated between *Cambray* and *Valenciennes*, and which guarding the Communication between those two Places, for that reason, was furnished with a good Garison, under the Command of a Governour who had the Repute

of a stout and able Souldier. Nevertheless, the Siege of this Place was no such difficult Task for the Duke with such a Force, in regard he lay secur'd by the King himself in Person, who had undertaken with his main Body, to keep the *Dutch* and *Spanish* Armies all the while in play.

To this purpose, the King encamp'd himself at *Seburgh*, between the *Hain* and the *Scheldt*, extending his Army as far as *Kiuevain* and *Mousipont*, to prevent his Highness from getting near *Bouchain*. Withal, he order'd Marshal *d'Humieres* to lye with nine thousand Men upon all the Passes over the *Scheldt*, between *Conde* and *St. Amant*, to hinder any Relief that way.

On the other side, his Highness, after he had muster'd his Army, which he found to be five and twenty thousand Foot, and sixteen thousand Horse, and receiv'd a Convoy of Provisions from *Brussels*, which the Count of *Montal*, with five thousand Horse, being watch'd by the Marquis of *Montpouillan*, in vain endeavour'd to intercept, decamp'd from *Mons*, and marching without Beat of Drum or Sound of Trumpet, in two long Bodies, the *Spaniard* on the Right, and the *Dutch* Army on the Left, with the great Guns and Provision in the middle, encamp'd the next day between *Perwez* and *Bassecles*, about three Miles from *Conde*. At the same time his Highness sent the Prince of *Vaudemont* with a thousand Foot and three thousand Horse, to secure the Passage over the *Scheldt* near *Conde*, and withal, commanded the Duke of *Holstein* to pass by *Mons* with fifteen hundred Horse and two Regiments of Infantry, to Post himself near *Kiuevain*, on purpose to amuse
the

the *French* and make them believe that the whole Army was upon their march on that side, while he might be thought to lead the Vanguard.

Upon this the King apprehending least the Enemy should find a passage on the *Scheldt* side, to raise the Siege of *Bouchain*, decamp'd from *Seburgh* and *Kievraïne*, and passing the *Scheldt* near the Abby of *Ename*, encamp'd his Army in view of *Valenciennes*, where Marshal d' *Humieres* also joyn'd him after he had quitted his post upon the *Scheldt*.

In the mean time his Highness, having Intelligence that the *French* design'd to possess themselves of a Hill, that lay near to *Valenciennes*, pass'd the *Scheldt* about a League below *Conde*, march'd with all haste on the side of *Valenciennes*, and having made himself Master of the Hill, by ten of the clock in the Morning, immediately rang'd his whole Army in Battle array, which the King of *France* perceiving did the like. The *French* had the Wood of *St. Amant* upon their Left Wing; and the Confederates upon their Right Wing the Wood of *Viscogne*, where they posted Three Thousand Foot to secure themselves on that side. And now, there being nothing but a large Plain between both Armies, it was generally expected that a Battle would have ensu'd. In order to which his Highness shew'd himself at the Head of every Regiment, enliv'ning to that degree the courage of the Souldiery, that they threw up their Caps, and with loud Acclamations testified their eager desires to engage the Enemy. But tho both Armies had stood thus drawn up all that Evening and the next day, the *French* forbore to

advance; so that the Prince of *Orange* having encamp'd his Army to avoid surpris'es, was resolv'd himself the next day to have attack'd the King, while a Detachment of Twelve Thousand Men endeavour'd to relieve the Town; but understanding in the mean time that the Place was taken, he alter'd his Resolution. Nevertheless both Armys still lay in view one of another near *Valenciennes*, nor would his Highness stir, till the King of *France* after he had wrote to *Paris* the great News of his Conquest of *Bouchain*, first decamp'd, leaving to the Prince the Honour to have dar'd the whole Power and Fortune of *France*; so that if the Confederates lost a small Town, the *French* lost the greater Honour of accepting so brave a Challenge.

No sooner was the King of *France* decamp'd, but his Highness follow'd him at the heels; and understanding by his Quarters between *Gramont* and *Nivonne*, that the King's design was to fall into the Province of *Alost*; his Highness sent *Antonio d'Agurto* with a considerable number of Horse and Dragoons to secure all the Passes and Bridges upon the River *Dender*, which they did in view of the *French*; by which means his Highness having secur'd those Parts, the King return'd back to *Kievrain*, which he order'd likewise to be fortify'd, as if he had had a design upon *Valenciennes*. Upon which the Prince brought his Army to *Lombeek* and *Wambeek* not far from *Brussels* to attend the Kings Motion. In which posture both Armies lay till the beginning of *July* without any considerable Action. But then the King of *France* returning for *Paris*, after he had given the Command of his Army in
the

he *Spanish Netherlands* to Marshal *Schomberg*, His Highness the Prince of *Orange* fate down before *Maestricht*. On the other side *Schomberg* by way of diversion sends away the Marshal d' *Humiers*, with Fifteen Thousand Men to lay Siege to *Aire*, a City seated in the Province of *Artoys*, and very strong as being environ'd on three sides with a deep Marsh. So that there was no way but one to come at it, which was defended by a strong Fort, fortify'd with no less then five Bastions and a Mote. This Fort d' *Humiers* easily made himself Master of, the Commander within, not having Men sufficient to oppose the *French* Numbers; after which he ply'd the Town so thick with his Bombs and Granados, that the Houses taking fire and the Townsmen growing impatient of their Losses, beat a Parley before the Governor knew of it and constrain'd him to Surrender the Town, upon such Articles as they had consented to; which were so much the more to their Advantage, in regard that they heard the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, was upon his March to raise the Seige,

All this while the Prince of *Orange* had lain before *Maestricht*, which was begirt on every side as well by his own, as the Confederate Forces of the Prince of *Qsnaburgh*, and some few Troops of the Elector of *Brandenburgh* and Duke of *Newburgh*, &c. To every one of which when His Highness had assign'd their quarters, he took up his own at *Smeermaes* on *Ruremond* side. Among the rest, the *English* under three Collonels, *Fenwick*, *Widdrington* and *Ashley* to the number of Two Thousand Six Hundred Men, besides *Volunteers* and *Reform'd Officers*, presented a Petition to his Highness, wherein they

they besought him, That all of their Nation might be assign'd a particular Quarter, and be commanded apart, that if they behav'd themselves like Men they might have the Honour due to their Atchievements; but if ill, that they might bear alone the Ignominy of their Cowardise; there being no reason why they should suffer for the miscarriage of Others. This Petition was readily granted by his *Highness*, who thereupon order'd the *English* a separate Post, over against his own Regiment of Guards, on that side next *Bois le Duke* Gate, under the command of Collonel *Fenwick*, as being the eldest Collonel; nor were they worse than their words, as appear'd by many desperate Attacks wherein they signaliz'd themselves with more than usual Valour, during the Siege.

And indeed never was any Siege carry'd on against a stout Defence with more Vigor and Resolution, his *Highness* continually animating the Soldiers by his Presence, and teaching them contempt of danger by exposing his own Person to that degree, that he receiv'd one day a slight wound in his Arm, at what time the Besieg'd thinking to have ruin'd his Works, were repuls'd by the Regiment then upon the Guard. So that if the Success of the Siege had depended upon the indefatigable diligence, the undaunted courage and more than credible vigilancy of the Prince, his *Highness* could not have fail'd of success in his Enterprize. But there were two reason's wherefore his *Highness* could not make himself Master of the Town so soon as otherwise he might have done; for first the River was grown so shallow, that he was forc'd to stay some days for his great Guns from *Ruremond* for want of water. In the next place, the Forces which

which he expected from the Bilhop of *Munster* and Dukes of *Luneburgh*, never came to his Assistance, Marshal *Schombergh* therefore, having receiv'd positive Orders to relieve the Place, and being now advanc'd to that purpose as far as *Tongres*, his Highness call'd a Council of War, to consider what was to be done, as the state of his Affairs stood. At what time, after they had debated the condition of the Army, which was not above four and twenty thousand at the first opening of the Trenches, now much lessen'd, but more weary'd and tyred out by continual labour and watching; that it would be impossible so to stop up the Passages and Avenues to the Town, on the *Wyck* side, but that the *French* would put relief into the place, do what they could, besides that it was impossible for the Horse to subsist in the Trenches for want of Forage, They concluded to raise the Siege. To which purpose, his Highness order'd the Horse to joyn Count *Waldeck*, and sent away his great Guns, Provision and Ammunition, with his sick and wounded Men, by Water to *Ruremond*, standing himself with his Foot drawn up in Battle array, till the Boats were out of danger, and then marched to *Loenaken*, where he encamp'd with his whole Army; to try whether the *French* would yet in the heat of their success, hazard the Fortune of a Battle. But the Marshal, well satisfy'd with his having reliev'd the Town, avoided any farther Action; so that his Highness drew off from *Loenaken*, and marched to *St. Tron*; where he gave leave to the Three *English* Regiments and Nine of the *Dutch*, who had most suffered during the Siege, to return into *Holland* and recruit their Losses.

From

From thence his *Higness* directed his March toward *Fanche* and *Pertuise*, the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* leading the Van, the Duke of *Osnaburgh*, the main Battle, and his *Higness* the Rear-guard. Thereupon *Schombergh* follow'd them as far as *Ware*, thinking to have done some execution upon their Rear; upon which, the Confederates drew up upon a Rising Ground between *Fanche* and *Pertuise*, believing that at length the *French* were coming on to give them Battle. But being deceiv'd in their hopes, his *Higness* march'd back to *Ware*; where now deeming the Campaign to be at an end for this year, he left the Army under the Command of Count *Waldeck*, and return'd for *Holland*. Where first in the General Assembly of the *States*, he gave an Account of the Summers Expedition, so much to their Lordship's satisfaction, that the President solemnly congratulated his safe return, and return'd him thanks of the whole Assembly for the great Pains and Toyl which he had undergone for the good of the Republic; and afterwards repeating the same Accompt in the Assembly of the *States* of *Holland*, the Pensioner *Fazel* made him new returns of thanks for exposing his Person to so many hardships and dangers for Preservation of the Provinces, for which they could not but acknowledg themselves eternally oblig'd to his Care and Conduct.

1677.

THE Campaign being thus ended, all Men were now in great hopes of Peace: and they who were most desirous of it, were willing to draw Reasons for the necessity of a general Compofure, from the Condition of the Potentates of *Europe* at that time, whom they concluded to be all alike, so wearied and exhausted with the continual Depredations and Expences of a long War, that they would be readily inclin'd to take Breath. But besides that the secret Springs that move the bulky Macheens of Kingdoms and States, never discover themselves withoutside the Frame, we generally find that it is more easy to kindle then to quench a Conflagration, and that Swords once drawn by several particular Interests, besides the general Motive, are not so soon sheath'd again. It required more then one Winter to regulate all the Preliminaries of the Grand Assembly at *Nim-meghen*. So that notwithstanding all the serious pains which his Majesty of *Great Britain* took, there was little hopes of Peace, before the next Spring. At what time the Loosers would be forc'd to stir, and the Winners confiding in Fortunes favours, would be sure not to lye Idle.

Nor were these Conjectures in vain: for no sooner was the New Year begun, tho it were the depth of Winter, but the *French* Forces were upon their March towards the *Spanish Netherlands*; and in a short time all the Important places round about *Valenciennes*, *Cambray* and *St. Omers*, were so throng'd

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throng'd with the *French* Troops, that those three Citys were in a manner blockt up at a distance. Nor were the *French* afraid to give it out, that they would be Masters of two, if not more Places of Importance, before their Enemies could be in a Condition to take the Field.

And here it was easie to observe the great advantage, that Men who being all under the Command of one Chieftain, are govern'd by his single and immediate Orders, have over those who acting in Confederacy, meet with a thousand delays of differing Counsels, temper of Nations, negligence or impoverish'd Alliances; while the single Person that has Power, has nothing to impede his determinations, but his own will.

The King of *France*, therefore having once fix'd his Resolutions, which were to add to his Conquests in the *Spanish* *Neitherlands*, hasten'd thither all his Forces, as to their Center, with so much speed, that by the first of March he had environ'd *Valenciennes* with an Army of between Fifty and sixty Thousand men, under the Command of the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, and the Count of *Montal*, and four days after arriv'd himself in person at the Camp.

Valenciennes is a large and fair City founded as they say, by the Emperor *Valentinian* for the sake of the Air, and the fertility of the Soil. It is seated in the Province of *Hainault* upon the *Scheldt*, which runs through it, together with the little River *Rouel*, which gives it the advantage of drowning the Country upon one side of it: so well fortify'd besides, that formerly it was thought impregnable.

Within

Within the City was a Garrison of two thousand Foot, *Spaniards, Walloons and Italians*; with about a Thousand Horse and Dragoons, under the Command of the Marquis of *Resburgh*, Brother to the Prince of *Espinoy*.

The King of *France* being arriv'd at the Camp, visited the several Posts, view'd the City, and gave Orders where to open the Trenches, and raise the Batteries; which were brought to that perfection in a few days, that the *French* were advanc'd to the *Glacis* or slooping of the Counterscarp of a *Crown'd Horn-work*, which was one of the main Defences of the City. But then the King, unwilling to loose time in a Methodical way of taking the Out-works, gave Orders to storm the Horn-work in four several Places at once, in the Morning by eight of the Clock; and to facilitate the Assault, commanded that the Besieged should be kept waking all the Night before by flinging Bombs, Granado's and Fire Pots into the Town; which had the desir'd effect. For the next Morning the Besieged being tyr'd out with the Night's toyl were gone to their Repose, leaving very few to guard the Works. So that the Assaultants carry'd all before them, won the Counterscarp and Horn-work, and turned the great Guns upon the Town; which put the Besieged into such a Terror, that they surrenderd immediately at discretion, and the *French* became Masters of the Town, almost before the were aware with very little loss, and none of any Quality except the Count of *Bourlemont*. At the same time the King perceiving the *French* and *Swiss* Colours upon the Ramparts, gallopp'd up toward the Town, and gave

gave strict Command to forbear pillaging or doing any other injury to the Inhabitants. But another chief reason that the City was so suddenly taken was this, that the Marquis of *Risburgh* was wounded at the beginning of the Siege, so that he was forc'd to keep his Bed. Which was the Reason that the King gave him his Liberty to go to *Brussels*, there to make his Justification. The rest to the Number of between two and three Thousand were all made Prisoners of War.

The King having thus won *Valenciennes*, immediately sat down before *Cambray*, with one Part of his Army, commanded by the Duke of *Luxembourg*, and begirt *St. Omers* with the other Part, under the Leading of Marshal d' *Humières*.

Cambray is one of the most ancient Cities of the *Low Countries*, Founded in the time of *Servius Hostilius*, but the Castle was built by *Charles* the Fifth: So that the *Spaniards* have always had a very great care to preserve it. This was the first place that *Clodoveus* King of *France*, Conquer'd after the loss of three and fifty Thousand men on both sides. It is a Town of great Trade for fine Linnen Cloath; and had been in the *Spaniards* hands above fourscore Years. There was in it a good Garrison of one thousand four hundred Horse, and four Regiments of Foot, besides two Tertias of Veteran *Spaniards*, under the Command of *Don Pedro de Zavala* the Governor. Thus both sides prepared for Defence and Offence; but the Church was a Pile of so much Veneration, that the *Chanoins* coming forth of the Town, made their Address to the King, and besought him not to level any Shot against

against their Cathedral. Which being readily condescended to, no sooner were the Lines of Circumvallation and Countervallation finish'd, but the King gave order for the Storming two Half Moons on the Castle side; of which the numerous *French* having soon made themselves the Masters, presently began to undermine the Ramparts. Which put the Besieged into such a Consternation, that they beat a Parley, and soon after Surrender'd the Town, upon honourable Articles; the Churchmen making their Capitulations a part.

But though the Town were thus taken the Castle still held out; whither the Governour, taking the Advantage of the Cessation of Arms, had in the mean time given order for the Canon, and such Ammunition as he thought necessary, to be remov'd. He also caus'd all the Horses belonging to the Cavalry to be kill'd, excepting ten for every Troop, and so retreated to the Castle with all his Souldiers, before the *French* had Notice of it, resolving the *French* should pay dearer for the Citadel, then they had done for the Town. So that the King was forc'd as it were to lay two Sieges to one Place. Nor was the Castle so easily nor so suddainly taken as the Town. For while the King was about to make his approaches with his wonted speed, he was Contrained to stop for sometime, in regard that not only the *French* Pioneers were driven from their works by the Besieged, in a Salley, which they made to prevent their approaches, at what time the Count d'*Auvergne* was wounded in the Head, and the Commissary of the *French* Artillery kill'd with a Canon

Bullet; but also, for that the King, upon advice that the Prince of *Orange* was upon his March to the Relief of *St. Omers*, was constrain'd to send away the Duke of *Luxemburgh* with a great part of his Army to reinforce his Brother the Duke of *Orleanse*, who then lay before the Town, and had already begun his Batteries.

For the news of the King of *Frances* great Successes at *Valenciennes* and *Cambray*, and his Progress at *St. Omers* had so alarm'd all the *Netherlands*, that his Highness the Prince of *Orange* was compell'd to take the Field, perhaps sooner then he intended, considering the greatness and Danger of the Enterprize which requir'd so much speed before the rest of the Allies could be ready. To that purpose having Rendezvouz'd his Army near *Tpre*, consisting chiefly of the *Holland* Forces, and some few Troops drawn out of the *Spanish* Garrisons, he set forward upon the seventh of *April*, and the ninth arriv'd at *St. Mary Capelle*, when he understood that the Duke of *Orleanse* had drawn off the greatest part of his Army, (leaving only some few Regiments for the Guard of his Trenches, and to keep the Town as it were block't up) and was encamp'd directly in the Road to *St. Omers*. However the Prince resolv'd to continue his march, which was very troublesome, by reason of the many Lane's in his way, so that he could not advance any farther all the next day, then to a small River call'd *Pene*, on the other side of which he perceiv'd the Enemy. Thereupon he consulted his Guides, and such as pretended very well to know the Country, who all assur'd him that there

there was no other passage to *Bacq*, which was adjudg'd the only Place by which relief might be put into *St. Omers*. And that was the reason that he resolv'd to pass the River and attack the Enemy. To which purpose, he caus'd new Bridges to be made and the old ones which the Enemy had broken to be repair'd in the Night time, and by break of day cross'd the River with that speed, that his whole Army was got over before the *French* perceiv'd it. But then nothing so much perplex'd the Prince, as to find there was yet another River, between the Enemy and him, contrary to what his Guides had inform'd him. So that all his care was how to pass the second River in view of the Enemy so nigh at hand, and all drawn up ready to give Battle. However he made himself Master of the Abby of *Plenes*, on the other side of the River, and lodg'd his own Regiment of Dragoons therein, thinking to have pass'd the River on the right hand. But the ground was so intercut with Dikes and Hedges on that side, that he was disappointed that way. Nevertheless the Enemy having receiv'd a reinforcement of fifteen thousand Men, gave him occasion themselves to come to blows with them, by quitting an advantageous post to attack the Abbey; where the Dragoons made a stout and long resistance, and at length being reforc'd with some Battalions of Foot, constrain'd the Enemy to retreat. After which the Prince drew off his Dragoons, and set fire to the Abbey, to prevent the *French* from taking possession of it. In the mean time the *French* wheel'd off their Right Wing, to charge in Flank the Princes Left Wing, which lay secur'd

cur'd by several Hedges, where were posted two Battalions of Foot. At what time the Prince observing the Enemy to be reinforc'd on that side with Fresh Numbers, sent three Battalions more to the Assistance of his own, and to Guard the Plain behind the Hedges. But the two first Regiments shamefully quitted their Post, so soon as the Enemy drew near, so that the other three Regiments not having time to put themselves in a Posture of defence, when they saw the first Regiments fly, they likewise gave Ground, and disorder'd the *Squadrons* that lay there ready to Relieve them. Upon which the Enemies Cavalry advancing, and being seconded by their Foot, put the Princes Horse also to a Retreat; though not far. For being immediately rally'd again they fell on with fresh Courage, and in their turn repell'd the *French*: but then the *French* Infantry advancing, made themselves Masters of the Hedges where the Princes Men were posted before; so that his Highness perceiving, that if his Men were charg'd both in Flank and Front at one time, they could not be able to make any long resistance against an Army still reliev'd with fresh supplies drew off his Forces in good order, repass'd the River and retreated to *Sreenword* and thence to *Poperdingue*, the Enemy having had such bad entertainment from the Princes Right Wing, commanded by Count *Waldec*, that they had no desire to pursue: and this was the Issue of the Battle of *Cassel*.

But certain it is, that the *French* were much more numerous, then they were thought to have been; as having receiv'd the Night before the Fight, a great reinforcement from the Army before

fore *Cambray* ; so that by the report of the *French* Prisoners, the Prince that day withstood no less then thirty nine Battalions of Foot, and a hundred *Squadrons* of Horse. And as certain it is, that though the loss on the Princes side were very considerable, yet that several *Squadrons* and Battalions of the *French* were very courstly handl'd. In so much that they who speak most impartially and modestly of the Fight, scruple not to say that if the Prince's Left Wing had Fought with equal Courage to the Right, and main Battle, the *French* would have lost much more then they did. But it seems there were in that Wing a new rais'd Regiment of raw Souldiers, who were the occasion that his Highness did not reap that Honour by this Battle which his Prowess and his Conduct deserv'd. For as to himself, all sides agree that he perform'd whatever could be expected from a Prudent, Courageous and daring Leader. It is said of him, that in the main Battle which he Commanded in Person he did wonders, leading on his Men at the Head of his Troops to the charge, encouraging them both by his Exhortations and Example, and hazarding himself to that degree in the midst of the Enemy, that he receiv'd no less then two Musket shots in his Armor. Of all which the States General were so sensible, that in Answer to his Letter wherein his Highness gave them an accompt of what had pass'd, they wrote him another, wherein they return'd him their unfeigned thanks for the great care and Indefatigable pains which he took for the Service of his Country, not sparing his own Person, of which they besought him to be more tender for the future, considering how important

the Preservation of his Highness was to the Preservation of his Country. Which if any Sinister accident should happen to his Person, it was to be feared would relaps again into it's former misery and confusion.

Upon the retreat of his Highness, the King of *France* carry'd on the Siege of the Citadel of *Cambray* with all the vigour imaginable: and it fell out unluckily for the besieged, that one of the *French* Bombs lighting into one of the Magazines where they kept their Granado's and other Warlike Ammunition set the whole on fire. Nevertheless they fail'd not to make a stout defence and recompens'd their loss in some measure with the death of the Marquis of *Renel*, one of the Kings Lieutenant Generals, kill'd with a Canon shot from the Castle. But at length the *French* having made several Breaches in their Works, and the Governour himself being wounded, they were forc'd to submit to the continual Attaques of a numerous Enemy and to surrender upon Honourable Articles.

But as for the Duke of *Orleans*, notwithstanding his Victory, he was so afraid lest the Prince of *Orange* should make a second Attempt to relieve *St. Omers*, that he durst not quit the Field, but stood upon his Guard for eight days together before he return'd to the Leaguer. But understanding that his Highness had pass'd the Canal of *Gaunt* with his Force, he sat down a second time before the Town with his whole Army, and after a vigorous resistance that cost him the loss of several of his best Officers, at length constrain'd the Besieged, though much against the will of the inhabitants, to surrender upon Articles. After

After the taking of these Towns, the heat of the *French* fury was over, and they who were so early to offend others were contented all the rest of the Summer to defend themselves, dodging and hovering at the Heels of the Enemy, but not daring though often challeng'd to adventure the hazard of a pitch't Field.

For by this time on the one side the Prince of *Orange* had recruited his own Army, and the several Auxiliary supplies sent from the Bishops of *Munster* and *Osnabrugh*, the Dukes of *Zell* and *Wolfenbustel*, reinforc'd with ten thousand Horse and Foot under the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* being come up to the Rendezvouze near *Alost*, they all joyn'd together, and made a Formidable Body. On the other side the Duke of *Lorraine* being come to *Pont a Mousson* with a Powerful Army threatn'd the Invasion of *Champaigne*. Upon which the King of *France* return'd to *Paris*, leaving *Crequi* to oppose the Duke of *Lorraine*; and *Luxemburgh* to observe the motions of the Prince of *Orange*. Who upon the twenty third of *July*, dislodging with his whole Army (for the Confederates had all submitted to his Conduct, though the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* and the Bishop of *Osnabrugh* were both there in Person) set forward from *Alost*, to attaque the *French* then lying under the Walls of *Ath*. But the Duke of *Luxemburgh* was so advantageously posted before two small Rivers, that his Highness did not think it convenient to force him in his Fastnesses. However he form'd a volant Camp of between eight and nine thousand Men, to prevent the *French* from harrasing *Flanders* on that side next *Brugges* and *Ostend*; and finding he could

not draw the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to a Battle, he directed his march for *Charleroy*, and in an instant beleaguere'd the Town.

Charleroy is a very regular Fortification, begun by the Marquis of *Castel Rodrigo*, which the *Spaniards* had demolish'd in the Year 1667. but the *French* repair'd it afterwards and made it one of the strongest Holds in all those parts. The Garrison consisted of between four and five thousand Men under the Command of the Count of *Montal*, a Souldier of great Reputation: and the *French* mistrusting that his Highness had a design upon the Town, had furnish'd it with all manner of Ammunition and Provison, and such a number of great Guns, that the Governour had sent away a good part of them, together with the Women and Children before the Place was invested.

So soon as the Duke of *Luxemburgh* had Intelligence that his Highness was sat down before the City, he drain'd all the Garrisons of the *French* Conquests, and having made up a Body of forty thousand Men, decamp'd from *Arth*, and knowing that the Confederates must have all their Forrage from the Country that lies beyond the *Sambre*, he posted himself on the other side of the River so advantageously, having a Wood upon his right Wing and a River before him, that there was no forcing his Trenches, Which he did not so much to raise the Siege, as to weary the Besiegers, who he knew could not subsist without Forrage. All which his Highness considering, and with all that if any disaster should happen by his assailing the *French*, in regard the Garrison of *Charleroy* would not fail to seize upon all the Fords and Passages

Passages of the *Sambre*, contrary to the opinion of the *Spanish* Generals, he drew off his Army, and retir'd to *Sombreff* : not minding so much the Murmurs of the *Spaniards* as the preservation of his Army, wherein consisted the safety of his Country ; though no Man living, on this side rashness, more daring then he, when he saw there was any likelihood of prevailing.

His Highness thus observing that the *French* had no other design but to keep him from laying Siege to any considerable Place ; and that he could not draw them to a fair Battle, without which there was no great advantage to be gain'd upon them, drew his Army near to *Brussels*, and there leaving it under the Command of Count *Waldeck*, return'd to the *Hague*, accompany'd by the Earl of *Ossory*, *Don Carlos*, the Duke of *Albemarle* and several others. Where after he had given the States General an Accompt of the Campaign, and the reasons that oblig'd him to quit the Siege of *Charleroy*, and to decline giving Battle to an Enemy so strongly Posted, their Lordships return'd him thanks a second time for his wary and Prudent Conduct, and besought the continuance of his Care and Zeal for the common Interest.

Nor was it long after the return of his Highness, before the occasion was made public that brought those *English* Nobility to the Prince's Court. For at a meeting of the States General on purpose assembl'd he gave them to understand, that his Uncle, his Majesty of *Great Britain*, *Charles* the II. had earnestly invited him into *England*, in hopes that his presence in those parts would contribute
very

very much to the Peace then in Negotiation, and be otherwise advantageous to the States: offering them with all whatever other Service he could do them for the public good. His Highness took his leave of the States, and of all the rest of the Colledges upon the seventeenth of *October*, and coming to *Helvershuys*, attended by the Earl of *Ossory*, Mr. *Odyck*, the Count of *Nassau* and several others which made up a numerous and Princely Train, there took Shipping in one of the King's *Yacht's*; of which there were four, together with three Men of War that lay ready to attend him, while Admiral *Evertsen* was ordered to wait upon him with several of the *Dutch Ships* that lay at the *Texel*, and Landed the nineteenth by ten a Clock in the Morning at *Harwich*; where the Duke of *Albemarle* and the Master of the Ceremonies being ready to receive him in his Majesties Coaches Conducted him that Evening to *Ipswich*, where he was receiv'd by his Majesty himself and his Royal Highness the Duke of *York* with all the Testimonies of kindness and affection Imaginable. Upon the twenty third the Prince with his Majesty and his Royal Highness arriv'd at White-Hall, where the Lodgings appertaining to his Royal Highness were prepar'd for his reception; his Royal Highness retiring to *St. James's*. Upon the Sunday following, the accustom'd Solemnities being pay'd to the Birth day of his Royal Highness, the Princess *Mary*, Eldest Daughter to the most Illustrious Duke of *York*, his Majesties only Brother, first appear'd in Public, no less Splendid in Magnificence of Habit, then Charming with the Luster of her Native Beauty. And be-
cause

cause the Lord Mayors day was then approaching the Lord Mayor attended by the Aldermen and Sheriffs of *London* went to *White-Hall* not only to welcome his Highness into *England*, but to invite him together with the King. and his Royal Highness to the Solemnity of their Feast. Which was then design'd to be more then usually Magnificent, in regard it was then past report, that this Majesty of *Great Britain* had cast his Eye upon the most Heroic Prince of *Orange* as the fittest match among all the Princes of *Europe*, for his most Illustrious Neice, the Presumptive Heiress of three Great Kingdoms: and for that the City was then to entertain all the Supream Grandeur and Glory of the *British* Monarchy.

What yet was only Report soon after confirm'd by the King himself, who coming into Council, upon the first of *November* there declar'd his design of Marrying to the Prince of *Orange*, the Princess *Mary*, Eldest Daughter to the Duke of *York*, who at the same Instant appearing in Council, testify'd as well his Consent to the match, as the great affection which he bare the Prince, whose Merits were so highly deserving. Both his Majesty and his Royal Highness at the same time declaring that they hop'd the match would tend to the Consummation of that Peace, of which his Majesty was resolv'd to labour the Accomplishment as far as the Interests of his Kingdoms would permit. Upon which the whole Council went in a Body to Compliment the Princess, and then the Prince himself; as did also after them the rest of the Nobility of the Kingdom; besides that the news being spread into the City set the Bells a ringing, and kind'd Bonfires

Bonfires in all the high Streets of the City in testimony of public joy and satisfaction.

Of the Conclusion of this Match, his Highness forthwith gave Notice by a particuiar Express of which this was the purport. *That in consideration they had testified their earnest wishes to see him Marry'd, after often he had well weigh'd the Reasons which induc'd him to it, in Conformity to their desires, and the good of their State, he thought he could not do better, then to make his Addresses to the Princess Mary Eldest Daughter to the Duke of York; that he had requested her in Marriage both of his Majesty of Great Britain, and his Royal Highness her Father, who had condescended to his Proposal; and therefore deem'd it but just to give them notice of it, expecting in return their speedy Approbation, that he might the sooner hasten again to their Service.*

Upon this, the States General assembl'd together, and after they had duely weigh'd the Reasons of State upon which the Match was grounded, and the fair Advantages accruing from it, tending to a confirmation or the strict Union between His Majesty of Great Britain and the States of the United Provinces, the Establishment of the ancient House of Orange, and so fairly promising a Conclusion of the so long wish'd for Peace; after they had consider'd all this, and the choice his Highness had made of a Princess, who besides her innate unparallel'd Goodness, was endu'd with all the Vertues desirable in Sacred Wedlock, by a Publick Edict testified their Approbation in all the Terms of Satisfaction that words could express; declaring also their high Esteem of so great an Alliance, and protesting their real and sincere Resolutions to observe it to the utmost of their Powers. This

This Answer and Approbation arriving at *London* the 14th. of *November*, which fell out to be his *Highbness's* Birth-day, the Marriage was solemniz'd the same day at eleven a clock at night, and that with so little noise, that the People knew nothing of it till the next morning. The Bishop of *London* perform'd the Ceremony, who when he came to the usual Question, *Who gives this Lady?* His Majesty answered in Person, *I do.* So that the next day, being the 5th. of *November*, was a double Holy-day among the People, not only upon the usual occasion, but to testify their present joy for the conclusion of so Glorious a Match; from whence they promis'd themselves so much of future Happiness.

However in the midst of all these Nuptial Joys and Caresses, the Prince well knowing how necessary his Presence was in *Holland* made all the haste he could to return. So that he departed from *London* 29th. of *November*, together with his Princess, and landed at *Ter Heyde*, from whence they went to *Houmslaerdyke*, where they staid till they made their publick Entry into the *Hague*. Which they did in a few days after with a more then ordinary magnificence. For besides that the twelve Companies of the *Burghers* were in Arms drawn up under their distinct Ensigns, the Bridg of the *Hague* was adorn'd with green Garlands, under which were written these Words,

UXORI ET BATAVIS VIVAT NASSOVIVS HECTOR
AURIACO ET PATRIÆ VIVAT BRITANNICA
PRINCEPS.

Having

Having pass'd the *Bridg* they were met by four and twenty young Virgins, that walk'd two by two on each side their *Hightness's* Coach, singing and strewing green Herbs all the way. When their *Hightnesses* came before the Town-House, they pass'd thro' a Triumphal Arch adorn'd with Foliage, and *Grotesco* Work, with the Arms of both their *Hightnesses*, and over them two hands clasp'd together with this *Motto*,

AURIACI HIS THALAMIS BATAVIS DOS REGIA
PAX EST.

From whence crossing over the Market-Place into the *Hoogstraet* another Triumphal Arch stood ready erected to receive them with these Words,

INGREDERE AUSPICIS BATAVIS FOELICIBUS
AULAM.

I pass over the Martial Ceremonies of *Volleys*, Discharges of Cannon, Fire-works the most Exquisite that Art could invent, the Bonfires in the Form of Pyramids and Castles, and other Solemnities, that were at vast Expences bestow'd upon this Nuptial Entrance, as being more proper for a Relation then a History. It suffices that hardly more could have been added to express the Joy of the People, or the satisfaction of the Magistrates.

Nor was it long before these happy Nuptials produc'd Effects answerable to the Promises of so potent a Prince and Mediator, as His Majesty of *Great Britain*; who as he had design'd them for
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the publick Good of the *United Netherlands*, the Establishment of his Illustrious Nephew's Interests, now enfolded with Theirs, and the Advancement of the *Protestant Religion*, so was he most industriously as good as his Word. For no sooner was the Year

1678.

BEgun, but the early Winter Preparations of the King of *France*, Alarum'd all *Europe*, but more especially the *Dutch*, and their Allies. Thereupon his Majesty of *Great Britain* sent the Earl of *Feversham*, to the King of *France*, with a Project of Peace, by Vertue of which the Cities of *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Tournay*, *Conde*, *Valenciennes*, and *St. Guilain*, should be restor'd to the *Spaniards*, in Lieu of which the King of *France* was to keep *la Franche Conte* entire to himself. But neither would the King of *France* agree to this, neither would the King of *England* remit of his *Proposals*. So that in this uncertainty of Affairs, His Majesty of *Great Britain* sends away a Commission to his Embassador the Lord *Hyde*, then at the *Hague*, to conclude a strict Alliance between himself and the *States General*, by which it was among other things agreed, that the King of *England* and the *States General*, should mutually assist and defend each other, by such ways and means, and with such forces as should be agreed upon between them.

That the Cities of *Charleroy*, *Ath*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Tournay*, *Conde*, *Valenciennes* and *St. Guelain*, should be restor'd to the *Spaniards*, with all such
other

other Places of which the *French* had made them Masters, since the taking of *St. Guilain*.

That the County of *Burgundy* should remain in Possession of the *French*.

That as to the United *Netherlands*, that in *Europe* there should be a Restitution of all things on both sides.

That in consideration of the Alliance between the Emperor and the States, that care should be taken that all things should be adjusted according to Equity and Reason.

That as for the Duke of *Lorain* his Dukedom should be restor'd him.

As for the King of *Sweden*, that there should be a Suspension of Arms till all the Conditions of Peace were agreed upon.

And lastly, if the King of *France* should refuse to accept these Conditions, that then the King of *Great Britain*, and the States should unite their Forces to Compel him to Reason.

This Alliance thus concluded, his Majesty dispatch'd away the Lord *Montague*, his Ambassador into *France*, once more to press the Acceptance of his Proposals, and to give more weight to his demands, began to make new Levies both of Horse and Foot.. But the King of *France* rejected his Propositions, making vast Preparations on all sides for War, but more especially in his New *Netherland* Conquests. Which constrain'd the King of *England* to recal his forces out of the *French* Service ; where they were but very cursorily us'd, and after they were recall'd, ungratefully sent back without their pay.

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His Majesty of *Great Britain* therefore vigorously Prosecutes his first Resolutions, and at the Meeting of the Parliament, acquaints them with the Alliance which he had made with *Holland*, for the public good and repose of *Christendom*, and with his Determinations to compel the King of *France*, to that Peace which he had set on foot, and of which himself was now become the sole Mediators: desiring withal supplies of Money necessary for such an Enterprize. In answer to which the *Commons* address'd themselves to His Majesty, and after they had return'd him their humble thanks for his care of the Protestant Religion by Marrying his Neice to a *Protestant Prince*, they besought him not to consent to any Condition's of Peace that should put the King of *France* into a better Condition then he was by the *Pyrenean Treaty*. To which when the King had return'd an Answer, the *Commons* after a short debate resolv'd the setting forth a Fleet of Ninety Men of War, and raising a Land Army of twenty nine thousand and seventy Men, and appointed Commissioners to Compute the Charges, which amounted to one hundred fifty seven thousand nine hundred seventy one pounds a Month. But then how to raise this Money was a debate too tedious for the swiftness of the King of *France's* Motions.

However thus far his Majesty had proceeded, before the Allies had made any Progress but only in Conferences with what Numbers, and in what Places to oppose the *French*, who like a Black-Thunder-Cloud began to hover already over the *Spanish Netherlands*. And which was worse when they came to a Conclusion what Number of Men

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was necessary, and that the States Deputies offer'd their thirty thousand Men, to joyn with ten thousand *Spaniards* ready rais'd; unless it were the Bishop of *Munster*, that offer'd about nine thousand Horse and Foot, there was not any one of all the rest of the Deputies but what reply'd, they had no Orders to confer either about the time of Rendevouze or Number of Men. So that the Prince of *Orange* with the *Dutch* and *Spanish* Forces, was still constrain'd to bear the first Brunts, and those always the most impetuous of the *French* Fury: and to look on with regret to see those Lawrels ravish'd from his Brows which else he might have won, but for the disappointment of Confederate Friendship.

All this the King of *France* well knew, and therefore he made early hast to do his Business, before a slow Enemy, either for want of active Resolution, or Money, was ready to oppose him. To that end he set forward from *Paris* the seventh of *February*, and by the first of *March* sat down before *Gaunt*, the Capital City of *Flanders*, with an Army of between three and four score thousand Men. Nor was it possible for a Town of so large a Circuit, to defend it self with no more then a Garison of four or five hundred Souldiers, besides the Inhabitants, against the fury of a Prince, who valu'd the winning of a Half-moon beyond the Loss of a thousand Men, and who fearless of Disturbance, gave them no Rest by Day or Night; but with incessant Batteries and Stormings, tir'd out their feeble Strength. *Gaunt* therefore being forc'd to surrender within nine days after it was besieg'd, the victorious Enemy fell upon *Ypre* with the same

same rapid Violence; but in regard this Town was stronger then *Gant*, and furnish'd with a better Garison, the Besiegers found so stout a Resistance there, and lost so many Officers and Souldiers before they took it, that the King of *France*, whether it were that he found his Army sufficiently tir'd by these two Sieges, or that he thought that by going thus far he had brought his Enemies into a Condition low enough to accept of his own Terms of accommodation, or whether he fear'd the growing Numbers of the *English*, he sent the greatest part of his Army into Garrisons to refresh themselves, and return'd to *Paris*.

For by this time the Duke of *Monmouth* was got to *Bruges*, with near three thousand Horse and Foot, which the King of Great Britain had sent to re-inforce the *Holland* and *Spanish* Army, and the Parliament then sitting, were so eager in the Prosecution of the *French* War, that they besought him to declare open Hostility, promising his Majesty withal, to stand by him with their Lives and Fortunes, and to assist him from time to time with such Subsidies and other Levies of Money as the Importance of such a Royal Design should require.

During these Transactions, it was astonishing News to hear that the King of *France* had totally quitted *Messina* and all *Sicily*. And the more penetrating *Politicians* were now of Opinion, that there would be no hopes of Peace on this side *Europe*, as believing that the King of *France* had abandon'd his Conquests in those remote Parts, as he had done before his Acquests in the

United Netherlands, to the end he might the better be enabl'd to turn all his Forces upon the *Low Countries*, the King of *Spain* and the Emperor. Tho others look'd upon it, as an Argument that the King of *France* was not so strong as he boasted himself to be, and that he did it rather out of Necessity, then in compliance to his own Designs.

However it were, it created a strong Suspicion in the Parliament, that the King of *France* resolv'd to continue the War in *Germany* and the *Netherlands*, and to make himself a more potent Neighbour then they desir'd he should be. So that they finish'd the Pole-money Bill, and in the same Act, forbid the Importation of *French* Goods into *England*. His Majesty of Great Britain also was desirous at the same time to have enter'd into a Quadruple Alliance with the Emperor, the King of *Spain*, and the States General, that there should have been the same Prohibition of the Importation of *French* Goods into any of their Dominions, as he had made in Reference to his own Kingdoms, which was the only reason that he forbore to proclaim the so much desir'd Rupture with *France*, till those two things were concluded. But while the *Hollanders* bogg'l'd at the last Point, as believing such a Prohibition would cause an utter Decay of their Trade, an unlucky Accident chang'd the whole Face of Affairs.

For the King of *France* being return'd to *France*, and finding the King of Great Britain so resolute in the Interests of his Nephew the Prince of *Orange*, more especially since the Prince's Voyage into *England*, and Marriage of his Neece ;
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in Favour of whom, it was strongly reported, that his Royal Highness the Duke of *York* himself, was preparing to pass over into *Flanders* to Head the *English*, (if not the whole Confederate Army in those Parts) form'd a Project of Peace himself, and sent it to his Ambassadors at *Nimmeghen*, to be deliver'd to the Ambassadors and Mediators of the Allies, by the Hands of the *English* Mediators.

The chief of these Proposals were, that the King of *Swedeland* and the Duke of *Gororp* should be entirely satisfy'd.

That the Prince and Bishop of *Strasburgh* should be restor'd to all his Territories, Goods, Honours and Prerogatives; and that his Brother, Prince *William* of *Fuftenburgh*, should be set at Liberty.

As to the Emperor, that he would alter nothing from the public Declarations he had already made, which were still to insist upon the Treaties of *Westphalia*. Only he offer'd, either to keep *Friburgh* and restore *Philipsburgh*, or to keep *Philipsburgh* and restore *Friburgh*.

As for *Spain*, he was content to restore *Charleroy*, *Aeth*, *Oudenard*, *Courtray*, *Gant*, and *St. Guislaine* with their several Dependencies and *Chastelrainies*. In lieu of which, he demanded *Franche Conte* entire, *Valenciennes*, *Bonchain*, *Conde*, *Cambray*, *Aire* and *St. Omers* with their Dependencies, and *Castleships*; and in a Word, all those Places, of which he was Master, except those before excepted.

Moreover, that he was willing to restore *Charlemont* or *Dinant* to the Catholic King, provided he could procure the Bishop of *Liege's* and the Emperor's Consent.

That the Confines between *Spain* and the Low Countries, to begin from the Sea, should be the *Meuse, Newport, Dixmude, Courtray, Oudenard, Aeth, Mons, Charleroy* and *Namur*. And these Bounds to be assur'd by those Places, the Fortifications of which had cost him Millions, and by the parting with which, he depriv'd himself of those Advantages which he possess'd, even to the Gates of *Brussels*.

As to the States General, besides the Satisfaction given them by the Articles relating to *Spain*, that he was content to restore them *Maestricht*, and to grant them the Treaty of Commerce in the same manner as it had been already settl'd.

As to the Duke of *Lorrain*, that he was willing to restore him, either according to the *Pyrenean* Treaty, or else to surrender to him all his Territories, excepting *Nancy* : in lieu of which, he would give him the City of *Toule*, reserving to himself a free Passage into *Alsatia*, and from *France* to *Nancy*, so to *Mets, Brisac*, and *Franche Comte*.

These Proposals were pleasing to some, but utterly by others dislik'd ; for as to the Interest of the States, they had no reason to reject them ; but the Ministers of the Allies being conferr'd with at the *Hague*, absolutely refus'd them as unjust and unreasonable, in regard that the King of *France* demanded entire satisfaction for his own Allies, but deny'd it to those of the other Side. But the King of *France* demanding a positive Answer before the tenth of *May* ensuing ; the Prince of *Orange* was sent for to be present at the
General

General Assembly of the States, where after a long Debate, because the Ministers of the Allies excus'd their Compliance, by reason of the shortness of the Time prefix'd, Monsieur *Beverning* was sent back to *Nimeghen*, to try if he could procure a longer Day for the Allies; while other Ambassadors were dispatch'd to *London* and *Brussels*, to incline the *Spaniards* to an Acceptance of the Propositions.

Monsieur de Leide coming into *England*, was look'd upon with an evil Eye by the House of Commons, as believing that the *Hollanders* sought to make a hasty and dishonorable Peace with *France*, and in that Heat, more inflam'd by Jealousies of a Popish Interest at Court, resolv'd that they would give his Majesty no more Money till the Protestant Religion was fully secur'd. Which offended his Majesty to that degree, that the Parliament was soon after prorogu'd.

On the other side, the *Spaniards* began to comply with the States, which they were the rather inclin'd to do, perceiving *England* and *Holland* agreed, and for that the Condition of their own Affairs grew still worse and worse, by the Loss of the strong Hold of *Lecur*, which was unhappily surpriz'd by the *French*, much about the same time. But nothing induc'd them more to a Concurrence, then the Return of the King of *France* to his Army near *Brussels*, surrounded with two numerous Armies more, one upon the *Rhine*, and the other between the *Samber* and the *Meuse*, which threaten'd nothing but the total Loss of the *Spanish Netherlands*, should the *Dutch* make a Peace without them, and stand Neuters during

the whole Course of the remaining War, to which they were already fairly courted by the King of *France*.

The *Spaniards* therefore thus constrain'd to submit to the Necessity of their Affairs, declar'd themselves ready to comply with the *Dutch*, and with the same Diligence the States General incessantly labour'd to prevail with the rest of the Allies, whose Ministers nevertheless spun out the Time with Memoires and Replies, till at length, the States tir'd out with these *Remoras*, gave positive Orders to their Ambassadors at *Nimeghen*, to sign the Treaty. But then they were not a little astonish'd to find that the Plenipotentiaries of *France* refus'd to set their Hands, upon new Demands of Satisfaction to be given in full to the King of *Sweden*, before the King of *France* would proceed to a final Conclusion.

This created new Difficulties, and occasion'd new Complaints from the States, of the unjust Dealings of the King of *France*, after so ready a Compliance with his own Proposals. The King returns for Answer, that he was willing to advance as far as *St. Quintins*, where he would stay six days in Expectation of such Commissioners as they should think fit to send to adjust the Difference. But the States believing they had condescended low enough already, reply'd, that the sending of Commissioners would but be to give his Majesty an unnecessary Trouble to reconcile new Differences after a positive Agreement; that therefore they were ready to Sign, which if his Majesty refus'd to do, nothing more remain'd for them, but to protest their own Innocency, and to lay
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the just Blame upon his Majesty, of the Mischiefs that should afterwards ensue. And withal, they decreed among themselves, the *Prince of Orange* being present, not to send any more to the King of *France*, till the Treaty was sign'd.

The News of this Difference, and of the Resolutions of the *Dutch* to continue the War, unless the King of *France* quitted his great Zeal for the *Swedes*, arriving in *England*, the Parliament, who before were all for disbanding the Forces rais'd by his Majesty, and laying up the Fleet, now voted the Continuance both of the Forces by Land, and of the Fleet by Sea. His Majesty also sent away some part of his Regiments into *Flanders*, muster'd the rest in *England*, in order to a War, made a new League, Offensive and Defensive, with the United Provinces, and both together prefix'd a short Time for the King of *France* to Sign, or declare his farther Intentions.

These round and resolute Proceedings of the King of *England*, at length put an end to a long and tedious Affair, so that the Treaty between *France* and *Holland*, was sign'd upon the eleventh of *August*, about Midnight. And much better it had been, for the King of *France* that he had made less use of his refin'd Politicks, which had like to have cost him the loss of all *Luxemburghs* Army.

For *Mons* in *Hainault*, having been long blockt up by the *French*, was now reduc'd to great Streights; in so much that His Highness the *Prince of Orange*, understanding that the Confederates had joyn'd the *Holland* and *Spanish* Forces that lay near the Canal of *Brussels*, departed by Night from

from the *Hague* the 26th. of *July*. Upon his coming to the Army, his Highness held a Council of War with the Generals of the Allies, where it was concluded, that they should all dislodge and follow the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, who directed his March toward *Mons*, on purpose to prevent the putting Relief into the City.

With these Resolutions, his Highness set forward at the beginning of *August* with his whole Army, at what time, he had hardly pass'd through *Brussels*, but he was met by General *Spaen* with a Re-inforcement of six thousand *Brandenburghers* and *Munsterians*. Upon Notice of the Prince's March, the *French*, who had lain for some days at *Soignes*, quitted their Camp, so that the Confederates lodg'd in the same Place which the Enemy had abandon'd the Day before. From whence, marching toward *Rocles*, his Highness advanc'd with his Left Wing as far as the Abbey of *St. Dennis*, where the Duke of *Luxemburgh* had his Head Quarters, and least expected an Attaque. For it was a Post almost inaccessible, there being no coming at the Enemy, but through Woods and narrow Paths, environ'd with Precipices. With his Right Wing he fac'd *Casteau*, which the *French* also possess'd, and which was no less difficult of access then the former. So soon as the Army was embattel'd, his Highness thought it convenient to drive the Enemy from a Hillock, where they had posted themselves to his Disadvantage. Which being soon done, he sent for some great Guns and play'd upon the *French* that lay somewhat above and upon the one side of a Cloyster near *St. Dennis*, which the *French* thought to have

have maintain'd with their Artillery. But it was impossible for them to resist the Fury of the Confederate Dragoons, who drove the Enemy from their Fastness, and made themselves Masters of the Cloister, while Adjutant General *Collyer* advanc'd toward the Abbey, and seconded by General *Delwick*, fil'd through the narrow Passages, and sliding down the Precipices with an invincible Courage, drave the Enemy after a vigorous Resistance, within their own Lines. In the midst of which Pel-mel, his Highness, accompany'd by the Duke of *Monmouth* (who fought all the day by his Side) and animated with Success, with his Eyes sparkling like Fire, cry'd out, *To Me, to Me*, to encourage the Advance of the Regiments that were to second the foremost. There was no sparing of Powder and Bullets on either side; almost all the Regiments of the Left Wing following one another till the Evening, with the same Vigor and Resolution. Count *Horn*, likewise drew his Cannon nearer, and play'd into the Valley upon the *French* Battalions, not without considerable Execution.

From thence his Highness flew to *Casteau*, which was attack'd by the *Spaniards* in the Right Wing; where his Highness's Foot Regiment of Guards had the Vanguard under the conduct of Count *Solmes*; being who seconded by the Regiments of *Rogue Sereres*, *Holstein*, and the *English* through Fire and Flames, after an obstinate Combate, wherein the Regiment of Guards was five hours together engaged with the Enemy, drave them from a Post, which was deem'd impregnable, and pursu'd them a quarter of a League through a Field and down a Precipice,

where

where glides the River *Haines* to the farther side of *Casteau*.

The Lord of *Ossory* did wonders with the *English*, at a little distance from the Guards; where the *French* lost abundance of Men.

Nor was there any of the Generals, that did not behave themselves with a Valor equal to that of the ancient Hero's. More especially his Highness, who in the midst of Fire and Smoak, and Bullets flying thick as Hail adventur'd so far, that he had been in eminent danger, had not Mr. *De Owerkerk* oppos'd himself against a daring Captain, that was just ready to charge the Prince full carrere, and lay'd the brisk Assailant dead upon the Spot. All this while the Cavalry were only looking on; by reason the Situation of the Place would not allow the Horse to be serviceable in narrow passages and steep descents. So that the whole Brunt of the Conflict lay upon the Infantry and Dragoons.

Night put an end to the bloody Contest, under the favour of which the Duke of *Luxemburgh* drew off in great silence, and no less confusion, and retreated nearer *Mons*, to cover himself with a Wood on the one side and a River on the other; leaving to his Highness, as the Marks of certain Victory, the Field of Battle, the greatest part of his wounded Men, several of his Tents, much of his Baggage, and a considerable quantity of Powder and other warlike Ammunition.

The States General upon News of this success, appointed Commissioners to congratulate his Victory, gain'd with so much Reputation and Glory, and to return him thanks for his Provident and Prudent Conduct, and the noble Exploits which
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he had personally perform'd in such an Obstinate Engagement, to the hazard of his Life : beseeching him withal, above all things, to be careful and sparing of his Illustrious Person, considering that in all human probability the Tranquility of his Country, and the Repose of the Church and Reformed Religion depended upon his safety. Moreover to shew the high value which they set upon his Preservation, in acknowledgment of Mr. *Ouwkerck's* Prowess, who had so valiantly and successfully oppos'd himself against the Danger that threaten'd his Highness, they order'd him to be presented with a Sword, the Hilt of which was of Massie Gold ; a Pair of Pistols richly inlay'd with Gold, and a Pair of Horse Buckles of the same Mettel.

His Highness having thus constrain'd the Duke of *Luxemburgh* to retire, would have certainly pursu'd his Advantages toward the full Relief of the Town. But while he was consulting what to do, Intelligence was brought to the Army, that the *States General* and the King of *France* were agreed. Upon which a Cessation of Arms ensuing, the *French* Army drew off to the Country between the *Samber* and the *Meuse* ; and his Highness retreated to *Esconsines* upon the Road to *Nivelle*, from whence he return'd to the *Hague*.

The success of this Battle hasten'd also the Signing of the Treaty between *France* and *Spain*, which was done upon the Seventeenth of *September* ensuing. So just was the King of *Great Britain* to his Royal Promises ; adding to his compassionate Mediation the Terror of his Arms, and

at the same time equally with both Victorious. As if Peace and the General good of *Europe*, had been his Neices Dowre, and that the two Important Alliances between the *United Provinces* and the King of *France*, and between the King of *Spain*, and the King of *France* had been but the descending Influences of the Conjugal Alliance between his Highness and the Princess *Mary* of *England*; which had engag'd his Majesty of *Great Britain* to lend his Assisting hand to curb the growing Power of the *French* Monarch.

The War being thus concluded between *France* and the *United Netherlands*, His Highness had now leisure to repose himself after the Toyls and Hardships of the preceeding Campaigns. For after the Ratification of the League, and the surrender of *Maestricht* back to the *States*, the King of *France* gave no farther trouble by force of Arms, to the particular Territories of the *Low Countries*. So that after his Highness the Prince of *Orange* had taken care to reform the Innovations of the *French*, and to settle the Affairs of that Garrison, all things began to look with a new Face of quiet and tranquility.

But fresh Dissentions kindling between the Kings of *Spain* and *France*, upon certain Pretensions which the King made to *Oudenburgh de Gand*, the City and Castle of *Aelst*, with their Dependencies. The Cities of *Grammont*, *Ninove* and *Rudershove*, the Country of *Beveren*; the Baliages of *Affenede*, *Bouchaine*, *Weert*, *Heerbrug*, *Opdorp*, *Moortsele*, *St. Amand*; and the Countrys of *Bornheim*, *Flobeeck* and *Leffines*; and these demands being insisted upon by the King of *France* with that

Rigor,

Rigor, that in stead of remitting in the least, he had given order to Marshal *Crequi* to block up *Luxemburgh*, and not to let any Provision be carry'd into the City, on purpose to force the *Spaniards*, it was not thought reasonable either by his *Highness* or the *States General*, to look on as Neuters in such a dangerous Conjunction. For on the one side they were afraid, lest a Rupture between those two Crowns might engage them in a new War: on the other side, though they should remain'd without disturbance, yet they thought it more safe to preserve the *Netherlands* to the *Spaniards*, then to have so formidable a Neighbour as the *French*, always hovering over their Frontiers.

Thereupon, at the Instance of the *Spaniards* themselves, who made their Applications both to them, as also to the King of *Great Britain*, in regard the Conference of the *French* and *Spanish* Commissioners at *Courtray* came to no effect, the *Stat General* made it their business, to employ the chiefest of their Counsels, to compose these differences by way of Amity and Reconciliation. For tho the *Spaniards*, upon the blocking up of *Luxemburgh* press'd the *States* to send the Succor of eight thousand Men, to which they were oblig'd by Articles, in case of any Attacks of the *French*, contrary to the Peace concluded, yet they rather chose the more quiet and safer method of Mediation.

To this purpose His Majesty of *Great Britain*, together with the *States General* by their Ministers at *Paris*, press'd the King of *France* to remit some part of his claims; or at least to order his
Force

Forces to quit the Blocade of *Luxemburgh*, till the new-risen differences could be adjusted, To which the King of *France* reply'd; That he was willing to release all the Claims which he had or could make, to all the places above mention'd, provided the *Spaniards* in lieu thereof, would surrender up into his hands the City of *Luxemburgh*, with all the Territorys three Leagues round about it. And this Proposal the King of *France* propounded to the King of *England*, for a Ground to proceed to a farther Treaty. Nor did his Majesty of *Great Britain*, or the *States General* when it was imparted by his Majesty to their Consideration, think it an unreasonable Proposition; more especially if at the same time the King of *France* would forbear any farther Distressing the City of *Luxemburgh*. All which the *States General*, after they had advis'd with His Highness the Prince of *Orange*, thought fit to signifie to the *Spanish* Ministers and to press their Concurrence.

This Proposal of the Surrender of *Luxemburgh*, and the Territorys belonging to it being rejected by the *Spaniards*; the King of *France* declar'd himself contented to refer all Matters in question to the Umpirage of the King of *Great Britain*. But neither did this please the jealous *Spaniards*, who covertly suspected partiality in the King of *Great Britain*, as being by that time enter'd into an Alliance with *France*; but openly pretending that *England* was not in a Condition to undertake a Foreign War, should the *French* refuse to submit to the Arbitration.

This delay of the King of *Spain* in accepting the

the Umpirage of the King of *England*, was no way pleasing to the King of *France*; so that he perfix'd a short time for the *Spaniard*, either to accept the Arbitration or refuse it. Which as it did not a little perplex the *States General*, who were afraid of the Consequences of new Acts of Hostility, so soon as the time limited should be expir'd, they came to a Resolution to press the King of *Spain* to a speedy Acceptance of the Umpirage; and on the other side they earnestly desir'd his Majesty of *Great Britain* to take the Arbitration upon him, and to interpose his high Credit and Authority with the two differing Crowns, that all Parties interested might meet, and prepare all Matters ready for his determination.

But then the King of *England*, being sensible that *France* would never condescend to any more appointments of Places and Persons which would require a longer time than was convenient for his Advantages, more especially seeing that all the Parties were already met at *Frankfort* in Order to a general Reconciliation, endeavour'd to throw the Umpirage from himself, as deeming it more proper for the States to undertake; and thus hung the Acceptance of the Arbitration all that year.

Upon this Prospect of future Troubles that menac'd the Repose of *Europe*, in regard the *Spaniards* neglected the Arbitration of *England*, and for that the *States General* contrary to the Sentiments of his Majesty of *Great Britain*, did not think it so conducing to the main, to urge the *Spaniards* to the Acceptance of it, unless it were done with

an inclusion of all the *Allies*, most Men were afraid least after the fifteenth of *January* was past, which was the time prefix'd for *Spain* to resolve upon the acceptation or not, the King of *France* should renew the War against the *Spanish Netherlands*. The States therefore importunately prest the King of *England*, by his careful management and the Grandeur of his Credit to prevent all Acts of *French* Hostility either against the Emperor, the Empire, or the King of *Spain*.

To all which the King of *Great Britain* made answer, that he was ready to perform all good Offices between the two Crowns; but that he doubted of succeeding any other wise then by advising the Acceptance of the Arbitration, and hastning the Empire to a speedy Accommodation. Nay, the King himself did not refrain from intimating to the Embassadours the Intelligence which he had, that the States themselves had dissuaded the *Spaniard* from Acceptance of the Arbitriment. Which the Embassadors excus'd, by telling his Majesty, that what the States had done, was not by reason they were averse to his Majesty's Umpirage, but to prevent any jealousy which the King of *Spain* and the rest of the Allies might conceive of them, as if the States had no desire to fulfill their Treaties and Alliances, but sought to make use of this pretence to shake them off: which might cause a General separation of all the Allies, and consequently cause a breach between the Crown of *Spain* and the United *Netherlands*, and give an occasion to his Catholic Majesty to deny them his Assistance in case of necessity; their safety depending solely upon their

own and the Forces of their Allies. But all this produc'd no more from the King of *England*, then that he would do his utmost endeavors, but could promise nothing. However he prevail'd so far with the most *Christian* King in behalf of the Emperour, that he offer'd a Truce for thirty Years and prolong'd the Term prefix'd for acceptance of the Arbitration, and the refusal of this proposition, till the last of *August*, without giving any interruption either to the King of *Spain* or the Emperor : which if others did not, the King of *France* lookt upon in himself as an Act of great Generosity, not to meddle with the Emperor who had now more then enough to do with the *Turks*.

But though his Truce propos'd for thirty years, was by several of the States of the Empire lookt upon as a reasonable proposál, as seemingly restoring, for so long time at least, a Breathing space of repose and Tranquillity to the Empire ; Yet others there were that utterly rejected it, as altogether prejudicial to the Empire ; alledging that a Truce of that continuance would only be to give the King a more Stable Footing in the places which he possess'd, and in some measure to confirm a Title to his unjust (as they call'd them) pretensions : more especially unless before hand they came to an Agreement touching the manner and Continuance of the truce. But in regard that after a long debate at *Ratisbone*, these two points could not be Adjusted, the Progress of this Negotiation advanced but very slowly.

All this while the States of *Holland* no less in-

cessantly labour'd an Accomodation, and to that end propos'd the *Hague* for the General Rendezvous of the Negotiators, and press'd the King of *Spain* so far, that though he had rejected the King of *Great Britains* Arbitrement, yet he accepted of their good intentions to desire his mediation; and was willing the *Hague* should be the Place of Conference, provided the Emperour likewise gave his consent. All this was signify'd to the States Embassadors at *London*, and they thereupon order'd to press his Majesty to propound his General Mediation to the King of *France*. Which though the Court of *England* lookt upon as a thing that would prove altogether unsuccessful, yet the King promis'd to gratify the States in that particular. Nevertheless he could not forbear when the Ministers of the Emperour and *Spain* next attended him, to let them understand, that it would be far better for them both to accept of the *French* Proposals and to Surrender *Luxemburgh*, which would at once put an end to all differences without any farther dispute or delay.

But neither the Emperour nor the King of *Spain* resolve so soon to take his Advice, and therefore the King of *France*, to Spur up this *Spanish* Hesitation, and to compel his Catholic Majesty to do him that Justice which he demanded, toward the latter end of *August*, being the utmost Limit of the time prefix'd, order'd *Marshal d'Humieres* to enter the Dominions of the King of *Spain* in the *Spanish Netherlands*, and to put all the flat Country under Contribution. Who upon receipt of these orders powers into *Flanders*, *Brabant* and other Places, with a numerous Body of *French*, plundering and pillaging

laging all before him, breaking down the Houses of such as deny'd to bring in their Assessments, and conniving at all those other Insolencies which attend on War. This was repaid by the *Spanish* Garrisons to the *French* in the same coyn and more particularly the Prince of *Chimai*, Governour of *Luxemburgh* fell into the *French* Territorys where he us'd the same Violencies and took several Castles. On the other side Marshal *d'Humieres* lays Siege to *Courtray* and takes it ; and in revenge of *Menguin* Burnt by the *Spaniards*, fir'd ten times the value in the *Spanish* Territories. Upon this the *Spaniards* lay an Imbargo upon the Goods of all *French* Inhabitants under their jurisdiction and confiscate their Estates, while the Marshal passing the Canal of *Bruges* and the *Scheldt* by the favour of the Ice, lays in Ashes no less then ten or twelve Villages and constrains the rest to compound for their contributions. Moreover to punish the *Luxemburgher* for the Ravages they had committed in the *French* Territories, *Mareschal Crequi* came before the Town with thirty thousand Men, and after he had ruin'd above five hundred Houses with his Bombs retreated to his Winter Quarters.

In the midst of these Devastations the *French* Embassador makes an Offer to the States from the King of *France* of Five Equivalents, which being granted he was willing to terminate all the Differences between the two discording Crowns: The first was the Surrender of *Luxemburgh*: The second was the Resignation of *Courtray* and *Dixmude* (leaving however *Deynse* with it's Dependencies to the *Spaniard*) the *Castlewick* of *Aeth*, *Beaumont* and

Bovignes with their Dependencies. The *third* an Equivalent either in *Navarre*, or *Catalonia*. If in *Catalonia*, he demanded the remainder of the County of *Cerdaigne* (to which *Puyocorda* belong'd) *Surdu-gel*, *Canredon* and *Castel-Folito* with their Dependencies: Or *Roxez*, *Girome*, and *Cap de Quieres*, with their Dependencies.

If in *Navarre*, His Majesty demanded *Pampelona* and *Fontarabia* with their Dependencies. Upon which Conditions, the King of *Spain* might chuse either Peace or War.

But in regard the *Spaniards* were utterly averse to the quitting of *Luxemburgh*, and with Scorn rejected the *Equivalents* of *Catalonia* and *Navarre*; insomuch that the Marquis of *Castell Moncayo* could not forbear, in his *Memoire* upon the Proposals to the *States*, to tax the *French* Ambassador for offering that *Equivalent*, only to shew that he knew the Names of the most Important Fortresses in the *Spanish* Dominions; therefore it was, that the *Spaniards* renew'd their importunate Instances to His Majesty of *Great Britain*, even to that degree as to expostulate with His Majesty, wherefore he delay'd the Succours which he was oblig'd by Articles to send to his Allies in distress. To which the King made Answer, That he wondred His *Catholic Majesty* should so earnestly press him for Succour at a time when the condition of his Affairs at home would not permit him to undertake a War abroad; however that he was still ready to do the utmost, that his Endeavours could contribute toward the General Peace of *Europe*, and the particular Service he ow'd His Majesty of *Spain*.

But no way satisfy'd with this, they repeat their Importunities

Importunities in *England*, and farther addr est themselves for aid to the *States*. But all these things serv'd rather to drill out time then to give any assistance to the *Spaniards*, who contrary to their own Nature seem'd now to act with more Precipitancy, and less consideration of their own low condition then the rest of their Neighbours. And indeed such was the Aversion of the Province of *Holland* to engage in new Broyls with *France*, that whereas the *States* had resolv'd for their own Safety to recruit their Land *Militia* with a Reinforcement of sixteen thousand Men, and requir'd the consent of the several Provinces, the City of *Amsterdam* would by no means agree to any new *Levies*; alledging, that the King of *France* had offer'd an Accommodation, and that it became the King of *Spain* to accept of such conditions as he could get, since there was no likelyhood that he could procure better by force of Arms. So that after the long turmoyle and tedious disputes and Expostulations of the public Ministers employ'd from the several Courts of the Princes concern'd, that which over rules all human Affairs, Necessity, which had a great Influence upon the discording Parties at that time, began to incline them to a better understanding of their own conditions.

For these disputes about Pretensions, being set on Foot in the Year 1681. had been bandy'd about till 1684. For the Emperour, though the Ottoman Forces did not appear so formidable as they had done the Year before, yet had he enough to do in *Hungary* to court new disturbances in other parts: the Affairs of *England* were all in

confusion : the King of *France* found his Treasures too much exhausted to support his usual Numbers. *Spain* acknowledg'd her self too Feeble to act without the Succors of her Allies. *Swedeland* long'd for Peace : and if *Danemark* made Preparations for War, it was rather out of fear then otherwise : the greatest part of the *German* Princes were no way in a condition to enter into new Broyles, and those that had escap'd best, desired rather an Accomodation : and as for the States General, they had so lately felt the fatal Inconveniencies of a long and dangerous War, that they desir'd nothing more then Peace. To which purpose, the last year they had propos'd to their Allies a General congress at the *Hague*, there to consult about the most immediate means to procure the General repose of *Europe*, or in case those Consultations fail'd, what measures to take to repel Violence by force. The consequence of which after many Conferences, and delays was this, that the Truce for twenty years offer'd by the King of *France* should be accepted, including the Allies on both sides. Which being once resolv'd upon, and the Articles of the Treaty agreed at the *Hague* upon the 29th. of *June* ; wherein among other things it was stipulated that the King of *France* should restore to the King of *Spain* *Courtray* and *Dixmuyden* with their dependencies, the Fortifications being first demolish'd, together with all other places which he had won by force of Arms, since the 30th. of *August* 1683. And other on the side that the King of *Spain* should Surrender to his most Christian Majesty, *Luxemburgh*, *Beaumont*, *Bouines* and *Chimay* with the dependencies and

and Villages thereto belonging, soon after the same Articles were concluded at *Ratisbone* between the Kings of *Spain* and *France*; after which, the Emperour and his most Christian Majesty having reconcil'd their differences by other Articles of the same Nature, a Truce for the same Term was accorded likewise between those two more Powerful Monarchs. Which being not long after ratify'd, though not without some delays on the *Spaniards* part (so ticklish are the Concessions of nice and jealous Policy) those Devastations began to cease which had layd waste for many years the most fertile Gardens of *Europe*.

In the midst of these Transactions, which were seldom manag'd by the States but in the presence of his Highness, whose prudence was still consulted in matters of greatest difficulty, it shew'd a Generosity more then Extraordinary, that while others prefer'd Points of Honour before the public Peace, he quitt'd his own Interest, and Post-pon'd the Demands of Reparation for the devastations of his own Demeans and Territories to the Necessities of his Country. For while the King of *France*, to force upon the still demurring *Spaniards*, the acceptance of his own conditions lay burning wasting and spoiling the *Spanish* *Netherlands* and several of the Adjacent Parts, a considerable part of the Ancient Patrimony belonging to his Highness went to rack in *Brabant*; *Luxemburgh* and *Burgundy*, where the Prince of *Isenguy*, supported by the Authority and Arms of the *French*, had seiz'd upon his large Possessions of *Warnesson*, *Vianden*, *Daeshurgh*, *Budgenback*, *St. Vith*, and other places, and

and had put both his Lands and Goods to sale by the Out-crie, as adjudg'd him by the formal Sentence of the *Parliament* of that Country. Of which though the Provinces of *Guelders*, *Zeland* and *Utrecht* made loud Complaints in his Highness's behalf, yet could the Prince obtain no satisfaction.

Nor were the Violences which the *French* offered to his Principality of *Orange*, and the damages which his Highness there sustained less severe.

For after the King of *France* had caus'd his Declarations issu'd out against those in his Kingdom of the reformed Religion, to be put in Execution; the Persecuted People sent their Children to *Orange*, as being a Sovereign Principality, there to finish the course of their Studies in security. But this displeas'd his most *Catholic* Majesty; who thereupon sent his Orders to Mr. *Moran*, Super-Intendant of *Provence* to march with a Body of above two thousand Men, under the Command of *Monsieur Montague*, the King's Lieutenant General in *Languedoc*, and *Positively* to Command the Prince's Magistrates to send away all the Children home again, and not to receive any more for the future into their Academy, or any of their Schools. Which command though it appear'd to the Magistrates very unjust and unreasonable, yet to prevent farther Mischiefs they resolv'd to obey it, promising to admit no more Children, and to write to the Parents of those they had entertain'd, to send for them back again. By which means they thought they had given full Satisfaction to the King of *France's* demands. But they were
strangely

strangely surpriz'd to hear, that during these capitulations, that *Montenagues* approach'd with his Armed Forces toward the cheif City of the Principality, with absolute orders to break down the Walls of the City. But in short he advanc'd, and having quarter'd eight Companies of Dragoons in the Citizens Houses, where they committed many Disorders and Exactions, and constrain'd as well the Inhabitants of the City as the other Subjects of his Highness's in the Villages round about, to work at the ruin of their own Walls, and the Towers, which were undermin'd and blown up. All which the People labour'd with so much the more hast and vigour, to the end they might be the sooner rid of those arbitrary Guests, who were said to have vitiated several Virgins already. The news of this being brought to the Prince's Council, they complain'd of it to the *States General*, as a Breach of the last Peace, desiring them withal to signify their just resentment of these undue and violent Proceedings, to the King of *France*, and to demand reparation of the damages sustain'd by the Subjects of his Highness, in the midst of a General Peace, and without the least suspicion of provocation given.

Accordingly the *States General* wrote to the King of *France* to let him understand the great injuries that had been done the Prince of *Orange's* Subjects, by his sending Armed Souldiers to demolish the Walls of the Cheif City of his Principality, and to extort Money from the Inhabitants, directly contrary to the last League of *Nimeghen*; of which they could not be so insensible, as not to inform his Majesty, and to press for reparation

ration of the damages which the Prince and his Subjects had so illegally and contrary to the Faith of Articles sustained. But all the Answer they could get from the Court of *France* was only this, that as for the Money extorted from the Inhabitants, it was done without his order, and he had Commanded restitution to be made; that upon the Submission of the People to his Will and Pleasure, he had withdrawn his Forces out of the Principality, and restor'd free Commerce to the Inhabitants according to their Desires; but that as for the rest, he had reason for what he did. Neither was there any thing more done effectually in this matter for three years together.

Nevertheless so soon as the Truce began to be set on Foot, the States began to think of disbanding their Supernumerary Forces; and the Deputies of *Amsterdam* were so hasty as to press the Reformation of the Recruits that had been rais'd the year before it was concluded, but the *Members* alledging that they ought first to take the Advice of the Prince of *Orange*, the matter was propounded by the States of *Holland* to his Highness, who gave them for answer among other things, that there was no Person who desir'd more then himself to ease the People of their Taxes and Contributions; however that he thought it somewhat strange, that they should talk of discontinuing the present State of the War, while the condition of their Affairs was yet so uncertain. Which would be to render them unable either to defend themselves or to Succour their Allies. That as yet the Truce was not concluded, but the War still continu'd

tinu'd between the two Crowns: For which reason the *Spanish Netherlands* were expos'd to Imminent Dangers: That all the Potentates of *Europe* were still in Arms, especially their Neighbours, and therefore that he judg'd it not so proper to alter the Constitution of their Militia, till they were secure from all sinister Events.

Conformable to this prudent advice of his Highness, the *States General* resolv'd that their extraordinary Forces should be continu'd from the First of *July* to the Twentieth of *October* following. In the mean time, his Highness no less vigilant to prevent Disorders at Home, then to repel foreign Hostility, made it his business to reform the Government of *Utrecht*, by making such alterations in the Magistracy as he deem'd most proper for the good of the City.

But here we must break off abruptly, having so fair an occasion to make a full stop at the Conclusion of a War. For as for what remains, Time must produce it; and there is no question to be made, but that surviving Pens will never grutch themselves the Honor to compleat the Story of one of the most Renowned Princes of his Age. Of whom a great Minister of State, and one who had been long acquainted with his surpassing Vertues, has given us this Noble Character, which shall serve to conclude this first part of his Life, and excuse me of Flattery, for what I have said already of a Prince, (to use the words of that unquestionable Judge and most Excellent Writer) who Joyn'd to the great Qualities of his Royal Blood, possesses all the popular Virtues of his Country; silent and thoughtful; given to hear and enquire; of a sound steady understand-

understanding; much firmness in what he once resolves, or once denies; great industry and application to his Business; Little to his Pleasure; Piety in the Religion of his Country, but with Charity to others; Temperance unusual to his Youth, and to the Climate; Frugal in the Common management of his Fortune, and yet magnificent upon occasion; Of a great Spirit and Heart, aspiring to the Glory of military Actions. With strong Ambition to grow Great, but rather by the Service then Servitude of his Country; In short a Prince of Many Vertues without any appearing Mixture of Vice.

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